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CAPUTO ON UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY FALKLANDS VOTE

PY051920 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1957 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Nov (TELAM) -- Today, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo voiced his satisfaction over the fact that two important things, which cannot be expressed in numbers, have been achieved: the position of the great majority of EEC member-countries regarding the Argentine claim (over the Malvinas Islands) and the need to solve this conflict through diplomatic channels have been ratified.

Upon his arrival at Ezeiza International Airport from the United States, where he attended the 39th UN Assembly, Caputo praised Barbados' vote in favor of the Argentine stance since it represents the rupture of a front that until now had remained solid. The minister was thus referring to the Caribbean countries. Caputo also referred to the fact that Argentina has not had to make any concessions regarding its foreign policy in order to obtain more votes.

In referring to the progress over last years' voting results -- this year the votes in favor of Argentine increased from 87 to 89 -- Caputo stated that it is a quantitative element which everyone can see and which must be regarded with care since one must take into account its positive and not so positive aspects.

Regarding the European countries' decision to refrain from voting on the Malvinas issue, the foreign minister pointed out that some of those countries have adopted quite contradictory attitudes. Caputo stated that at least three countries, when they stated their position, announced that they fully agreed with the Argentine stance, with the need to seek a negotiated solution to the conflict, and with the text of the resolution that was voted upon, and then explained that due to a matter of regional solidarity they could not vote in favor and had to abstain. Caputo added that "we deeply regret that some countries, many of them UN founding members and some even permanent members of the UN Security Council, separate their direct interests from their politics and from international law. We believe that this reveals a glaring duplicity and a double standard."

The minister pointed out that the Argentine representatives who attended the meeting left with the feeling that those countries, in assuming contradictory positions, to some extent have adopted a contradictory stance before the international community as a whole. In his opinion, this is the most negative aspect of this resolution or vote.

Caputo reiterated his satisfaction over the fact that Argentina has not had to make any concessions regarding its foreign policy. He added that we have not "made any deal", we have just maintained a coherent position throughout these past few months which we did not alter at all before the voting. He added that "despite this continuity, which could have altered the interests of some countries, we not only managed to ratify last year's results but also to increase the number of votes in our favor."

Caputo noted that during the past few weeks the United Kingdom displayed unusual diplomatic activity, which he said was almost spectacular. And this is not only our opinion but also that of the British specialists themselves, of the journalists who specialize in this subject in the British [words indistinct].

The head of San Martin Palace stated that despite the pressure exerted by their representatives and by a country with powerful economic and military resources, we have made progress which, although not spectacular, has served to overcome another phase in this difficult task which we are sure will yield a positive result, that is, the recovery of the Malvinas Islands for our country.

Caputo warned that months, possibly years, of work lie ahead, but we will not rest for a single moment and are going to diplomatically besiege the inflexible British position and make this position increasingly costly for them at an international level.

When he was asked about Argentina's future position regarding those countries that abstained from voting, Caputo said that to review our policy in the face of these abstentions would be to admit that our entire policy depends on this vote and he dismissed such a possibility. However, he said, we are going to show our concern over their duplicity and double standards, because many countries explained their position and then abstained from voting.

PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE TO HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

PY042035 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin yesterday called for a coherent and organic behavior by political forces to neutralize and overcome any attempt to interrupt constitutional order. In a statement read at the opening of a meeting on the defence of democracy organized by the Permanent Assembly on Human Rights (APDH), Alfonsin said there were pressure groups and power factors which had harassed or interrupted practically all democratic and liberating processes in Latin America.

The president said he had faith in a future of reconciliation and pacification for Argentina and democracy would be "our purificating enterprise and the new Canaan for all those who suffered exile, captivity, and death." Alfonsin said Argentine society had the necessary constitutional and legal structures for a vigorous democracy. The president said behaviour of political forces had, necessarily, to be within the framework of the selective dissent of objectives and methods or of the peaceful and creative consensus of the majorities.

ALFONSIN NOT TO ISSUE STATEMENT TO ARMED FORCES

PY051602 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1415 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Nov (TELAM) -- Official spokesman Ignacio Lopez today denied press reports that President Raul Alfonsin will release a statement strongly condemning possible destablizing actions of some military sectors. Lopez denied a report published today by the Buenos Aires morning newspaper LA VOZ that Alfonsin reportedly met with Defense Minister Raul Borras yesterday to consider the contents of the presidential statement against the reactions within the Armed Forces was to be released this week.

FORMER LABOR MINISTER RETURNS TO PARTY ACTIVITIES

PY042000 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Nov 84 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Former Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella said yesterday President Raul Alfonsin must continue as head of the Radical Party, but below him the party needed a structure to ensure it could continue functioning normally without troubling Alfonsin.

Casella, who will dedicate himself to party activities after leaving the ministry earlier this week, said since the Radicals took over the government last year, most party leaders took on government duties, leaving a void in the party leadership. He said because of this Alfonsin and he had agreed it was advisable for some of the former leaders to return to party activities, and he himself was the first to be chosen.

On other subjects, Casella said the decision by the Justicialists to abstain in the November 25 plebiscite on the Beagle Channel treaty with Chile reflected political irresponsibility on their part. The former minister described the party alliance, which Buenos Aires Province Justicialist leader Herminio Iglesias is trying to forge, as a "reedition of oligarchical populism" as he is trying to bring the most conservative elements of the political spectrum into it.

PARTIES DISCLOSE STANCE ON BEAGLE ACCORD

Popular Socialists Endorse Pact

PY031325 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0030 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Nov (TELMA) -- This evening the Popular Socialist Party (PSP) disclosed its position regarding the plebiscite called by the executive branch for 25 November. The PSP stated that the agreement reached through the papal mediation is determined by the internal and external political situation which the Argentine nation is currently experiencing and our party accepts this.

Making use of the television time set aside by the Public Informations Secretariat, PSP Secretary General Guillermo Estevez Boero stated that we, as Socialists, are aware that in order to modify a situation one must not ignore the reality of this situation and we recognize that the papal mediation has prevented bloodshed between brother nations, and especially that of the Argentine and Chilean youths who have already shed so much blood in vain. Estevez Boero pointed out the need for the National Congress to make sure that the final agreement is signed by the democratically elected authorities of the Chilean people since General Augusto Pinochet, whom he called the jackal of the Pacific, is responsible for the death every day of workers and youths and has neither the moral nor institutional authority to sign an agreement of such magnitude. Additionally, Estevez Boero said that the party believes that the National Congress must substantially modify the arbitration mechanism established in the agreement and that it is inadmissible that Switzerland be appointed as supreme arbitrator since this country is the center of international usury and has represented British interests in our country since the war over the Malvinas.

The PSP secretary general then went on the analyze the country's internal and external situation and pointed out that if we Argentines do not radically change our submissive mentality and handling of resources, we will soon be faced with more serious and larger territorial mutilations in the Patagonia and in the northeastern and northwestern regions. This will not be the result of the malignancy of neighboring countries, but of our incapacity to occupy what belongs to us, he warned.

Estevez Boero ended by stating that we, the Popular Socialists, urge our fellow countrymen to acknowledge the depth of the crisis we are enduring and then embark on the task of a national reconstruction, which will only be feasible by showing consideration for those who work within the framework of respect for popular sovereignty and national independence.

Federal Party Reiterates Support

PY021630 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0424 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Nov (TELAM) -- Using television time set aside by the government for comments on the Beagle agreement, the Federal Party today reiterated its support for the 25 November plebiscite because it considers that the treaty is vital for stopping Chilean expansion toward the east and its projections toward the Antarctic, and in correctly demarcating the eastern sector of the Strait of Magellan.

The Federal Party, which is led by Francisco Manrique, states that its support for voting yes is conditioned by the implementation of an aggressive, far-reaching development policy in Patagonia. The Federal Party also states that the treaty should clearly specify the air routes for both countries and should make it clear that variations from international law will apply equally to both countries in the southern area.

Peronists Divided

PY022246 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The Beagle issue is continuing to cause divisions in the heart of Justicialism. The criticism of the position to abstain on the issue, which was initiated by the governors of La Rioja and Catamarca Provinces, is now being supported by national Peronist senators and deputies who agree that a yes or no vote must be cast and that it would be wrong for the party to turn its back on such an important national issue.

These events taking place in Congress are threatening the structure of both Peronist congressional blocs. Deputy Norberto Imbelloni, who belongs to the Herminio Iglesias faction, has harshly criticized the head of the Justicialist Block in the Chamber of Deputies, Diego Ibanez, who has supported the agreement with Chile from the beginning. In a note he signed, Imbelloni says that Ibanez is adopting attitudes that may cause a rupture within the Justicialist Bloc in the Chamber, thus representing a threat to the party. However, it must be pointed out that Imbelloni's offensive against Ibanez is also meant to wear him out so that the deputies who support Iglesias will be able to attain a better position from which to name Herminio Iglesias as the candidate for the presidency of the Justicialist Bloc in the Chamber if he is elected during the congressional elections next year.

As can be seen, the Beagle issue is not only deeply affecting the Justicialist Party and the movement as a whole, but it is also affecting its congressional blocks, although in the Senate those who are against abstaining are being far more cautious. They prefer that the final decision be taken by party authorities in their own provices.

All these events are obviously being evaluated by the Radicals, who are saying that the Peronists, with their past and current attitudes on several issues of national importance, are hurting themselves for the congressional elections to be held next year. Also, the Radicals are also saying that in spite of the call to abstain on the Beagle plebiscite made by Justicialism, the number of voters will surpass 70 percent of all registered voters, and of this number 85 percent will vote yes.

Several reports indicate that within the official sector there is a rapidly spreading movement in favor of taking advantage of suitable opposition ideas, including those from the Justicialists, to support the yes position during the Beagle plebiscite.

Intransigents Support Treaty

PY032002 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Excerpt] San Juan, 3 Nov (TELAM) -- Intransigent Party President Oscar Alende today reasserted that his party openly supports approval of the plebiscite on the papal proposal and the initialing of the Vatican treaty on 25 November. Alende also criticized the executive branch for not assuming its constitutional obligations regarding the handling of Argentine foreign relations.

Alende, who on 2 November presided over a party rally in downtown San Juan, said that he understands the treaty entails a compromise, but that it safeguards the eastern mouth of the Strait of Magellan, establishes a border at the Cape Horn meridian regarding the Antarctic, and above everything else, by establishing maritime and operational sovereignty to avoid any armed confrontation, it safeguards peace.

PDP Favors Accord

PY052330 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2333 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Nov (DYN) -- The Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) today officially made known that it will vote yes in the plebiscite on the Beagle conflict, although it considers that the agreement with Chile "is not a victory of Argentine diplomacy" because "previous proposals have not been improved upon." In its resolution, the PDP reaffirms "the need to definitely incorporate the plebiscite into the Constitution through an amendment, so as to definitely express the people's will."

The resolution was adopted by a PDP congress, with delegates from all over the country participating, that was held over the weekend in this city, with the spirit of "appealing to the sentiments of union and solidarity within a framework of the utmost respect for opposing opinions, w ich the PDP considers, as it does it own, to be imbued with love for Argentina."

JUSTICIALIST GOVERNOR SUPPORTS BEAGLE AGREEMENT

PY030158 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2135 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Nov (NA) -- Carlos Menem, the Justicialist governor is organizing, together with the Radicals, several public ceremonies that are to be held in Greater Buenos Aires aimed at convincing the people to vote yes in the plebiscite that will be held on the treaty with Chile on the Beagle Channel. Spokesman of the Radical Civic Union and of the governor of La Rioja today confirmed that talks are currently under way to establish the dates for these joint ceremonies, of which there will be at least three.

Governor Menem has publicly stated that he favors voting yes in the plebiscite, a stand for which he has been harshly criticized by other Justicialist leaders. In addition to Menem, other Justicialist leaders have expressed support for a yes vote. Among these leaders are Italo Luder, Jorge Taiana, Roberto Romero, Eduardo Duhalde, and Diego Ibanez, although the latter did say that he will comply with the decision of his party leadership to advocate "active abstention."

COMMUNIST YOUTH TO JOIN NICARAGUAN WORK BRIGADES

PY050051 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1551 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Tocuman, 4 Nov (TELAM) -- A group of 120 youths belonging to the Communist Youth Federation [FJC] will travel to Nicaragua to join the brigades that work on the coffee harvest during the first months of the year. This was reported by the FJC leaders at a press conference given to confirm the solidarity and international character of the FJC. They said that the youths will arrive in the Popular Republic of Nicaragua in January 1985 to help in the coffee harvest, at a time when the revolutionary and independent future of Central America is surely in great danger due to the invasion threat by the United States. On 17 and 18 November they will hold their 10th provincial conference, during which a new provincial directorate will be chosen and many issues related to the work of the Communist youth will be discussed.

NEGOTIATIONS ON RESCHEDULING DEBT PAYMENT UNDER WAY

PY052110 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2308 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] La Paz, 3 Nov (EFE) -- Finance Minister Gualberto Mercado has reported in La Paz that Bolivia is renegotiating in Miami with private international banks on the payment of its forgeign debt.

Due to pressures imposed by the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] and the critical economic situation in the country, the Bolivian Government 4 months ago decided unilaterally to suspend the payment of its foreign debt to private banks and international financial organizations.

The Bolivian official delegation that traveled to Miami is headed by Central Bank President Reynaldo Cardozo, who is accompanied by specialists of the Central Bank and of the Finance Ministry. The Bolivian delegation will meet this weekend with representatives of more than 100 creditor banks, with the "main objective of resuming talks with the bank committee," Mercado told the press.

The bankers had given a 90-day period to the Bolivian Government to study the form of resuming the payment of the debt. This period expired on 13 October, although it was extended for 2 more weeks before taking measures against Bolivia.

The finance minister stated that the order to lift the decision not to pay the foreign debt "comes from the president." A government source has told EFE that Bolivia hopes to achieve the postponement for some years of the payment of the debt and the extension of the payment terms in exchange for a commitment to gradually pay its $4.5 billion debt.

The newspaper HOY reported this morning that if Bolivia had to fully meet its public and private obligations, it would have to commit 75 percent of its overall export earnings for the next few years, according to the "1984-1987 National Recovery and Development Plan" which was a study project.

Moreover, the ministers of the economic area are "in permanent session" to set the groundwork for an agreement with the COB for the promulgation of short-term corrective economic measures, with guarantees that they will be effectively fulfilled. The finance minister has stated that they are studying the 18 economic points for "immediate implementation" proposed this week by the powerful and influential COB.

Among the measures the government will adopt, which the experts claim to be imminent and drastic to meet the critical situation, there will be a new official exchange rate for the dollar as compared to the Bolivian peso (the exchange rate on the black market is now three times the official rate), which will permit the establishment of new prices and overcome the current scarcity of staples. Businessmen and cattlemen would rather store their products than sell them at current prices.

But the COB will hardly accept an agreement with the government, nor will it permit, without unleashing a social agitation, the adoption of measures considered to be "unpopular," including the payment of the foreign debt.

REPORTAGE ON ANTI-DRUG OPERATION IN CHAPARE

Hunger Strike Lifted

PY022346 Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] La Paz, 2 Nov (AFP) -- It was reported today that the more than 7,000 peasants and settlers of the Chapare area who are carrying out a hunger strike in Cochabamba (500 km outside La Paz) to demand that they be allowed to freely market coca leaves and that the military forces withdraw from their production areas have agreed to lift the strike. The decision is the result of an agreement that government envoys, campesino leaders, labor union leaders, and settlers have signed. According to the agreement, the authorities charged with the control of dangerous drugs agreed to allow each coca farmer to transport 50 kg of coca leaves daily. These coca farmers are to show special papers whenever they pass through the respective checkpoints.

The agreement will be in effect for 2 weeks until the regulations for marketing coca leaves are established. It was explained that the settlers will have to prove that the trade is lawful and that it abides by the laws in force.

It was stated that the strike will be called off as long as the Armed Forces lift the curfew that has been imposed on the Chapare area since August when the area was declared a military zone and hundreds of clandestine cocaine laboratories were destroyed. The military authorities believe it is certain that their troops will pull out of the Chapare area after it is cleared of the drug trafficers.

Peasants Isolate Cochabamba

PY050130 Paris AFP in Spanish 2219 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 4 Nov (AFP) -- It was reported here today that peasants and settlers of the Chapare region, in the center of the country, have isolated Cochabamba city to protest against the government's decision to maintain a military zone in this coca-producing region.

The coca farmers of Chapare (more than 7,000 agricultural workers) continued their hunger strike until 3 November and in face of the lack of attention given to their demands for demilitarization, free coca trade, and for a new infrastructure, they decided to block all traffic to Cochabamba. The roads to Santa Cruz, in the west, and to Oruro, in the east, are blocked, while the road to the Chapare has been practically taken over by the coca farmers.

Possible Withdrawal of Troops

PY051421 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo has announced that the government is analyzing the possibility of ordering the withdrawal of the troops struggling against drug trafficking in the Chapare zone. Cardenas Mallo stated that the withdrawal would take place as soon as the president of the Republic orders it through a government decree. The minister thus denied rumors about the withdrawal of the troops struggling against drug trafficking in Chapare.

The defense minister stated that once the military troops withdraw, the Bolivian police would be granted full authority to enforce order and law.

Minister Cardenas Mallo asserted that the possibility of temporarily establishing military forces in Beni to continue the all-out struggle against drug trafficking has not been analyzed. He said that the Bolivian police are carrying out this task in Beni Department successfully. Therefore, the possibility of the Armed Forces taking part in this struggle has not been discussed.

Minister Cardenas Mallo ended by stating that the government, in addition to the political crisis the country is enduring, is concerned about the economic situation and is seriously analyzing this problem in order to handle it properly.

SEVEN LUBRIAY PRISONERS ON HUNGER STRIKE

PY052025 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0839 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] La Paz, 5 Nov (EFE) -- Although President Hernan Siles Zuazo 10 days ago decreed an amnesty for the 7 persons who have been accused of being leftist guerrillas, these persons are still in a military prison and in a serious state of health due to their long hunger strike.

When on 25 October President Siles surprised the world with his speech in which he announced his hunger strike "to return a climate of peace and reflection to the country," he also stated that he had decided to decree an amnesty for the Luribay prisoners, as they are known. These prisoners, including two Chileans who belong to the Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), were captured by military units in the Luribay area and were accused of preparing a guerrilla movement. They have been in prison for 1 year now and they have been subject to ill treatment, according to charges that have been made by members of the Bolivian Human Rights Commission. Despite the fact that the Permanent Court of Military Justice could not prove that they were guerrillas they were sentenced to a maximum of 7 years for the theft of weapons and food from the Armed Forces.

The newspaper PRESENCIA reports that before the sentence was made known some 3 weeks ago, the prisoners went on a hunger strike, which today, 5 Novemoer, has now entered its 33d day in order to apply pressure for their action to be released.

When President Siles decreed the amnesty, certain military sectors expressed their annoyance and some days later the court that had tried the prisoners decided that it was the Supreme Tribunal of Military Justice that had to order their release, because the prosecutor had asked for a retrial by a higher court. The Supreme Tribunal returned the case to the Permanent Tribunal and, finally, on 1 November the latter court decided that General Sejas, Army commander in chief, had to sign the release of the prisoners. Sejas has the maximum confidence of the president and he also respects constitutional order.

But, General Sejas, who is openly repudiated by a large sector of the Army, has stated that it is the duty of the High Command to execute government orders and, therefore, the government ordered the prisoners' release.

The newspaper PRESENCIA insists that the seven leftists are in a delicate state of health and that they are being looked after in their cells by Bolivian Red Cross doctors, who are giving them intraveneous feedings. Although they hope that their release will be ordered within the next few days, they have stated that if they remain in prison they will continue with their hunger strike to the ultimate consequences.

The same newspaper states that this situation is endangering the democratic prestige of Siles Zuazo's constitutional government due to the disobeyance of, or delay in implementing a presidential order.

CABINET RESIGNS AFTER CHURCH, COMMUNIST MEETING

Jarpa Resigns

PY051535 Paris AFP in Spanish 1530 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Santiago, 5 Nov (AFP) -- Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa today resigned from his position, thus unleashing a cabinet crisis in President Augusto Pinochet's administration.

Minister Jarpa took over in August 1983 to lead the political relaxation program of the military regime, which then had to cope with severe social conflicts.

A cabinet reshuffle is being discussed at an unscheduled meeting which Pinochet has been holding with his advisers at Government House since noon today, according to an official communique.

Ministers Follow Suit

PY051638 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Report from La Moneda Palace by Daniel Ortiz]

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary General of Government Jose Marquez de la Plata confirmed a few minutes ago that all the ministers have submitted their resignations to the president. He made it clear that none of the resignations are irrevocable. This is what Minister Marquez de la Plata told the press here at Government Palace:

[Begin recording] The interior minister has reported, as you already know, that he has submitted his resignation to the president. As is customary in this type of situation, the ministers have handed the president a letter giving him freedom of action. So the whole cabinet has resigned. This is normal in this type of situation. [Words indistinct] we have given the under secretary of the Presidency the letter signed by each of the ministers. [end recording]

Jarpa Explains Action

PY051900 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has said that one of the main causes for his resignation was a meeting that a group of bishops and Marxist leaders held in Rome.

[Begin Jarpa recording broadcast in progress] ...But good reasons, mainly the meeting that a group of Chilean bishops and pro-Soviet Communist leaders held in Rome. As a Catholic, I cannot oppose the bishops. However, I am absolutely sure that everything involving understanding and agreement with the Communists or facilities for them is a serious mistake, not only from the political standpoint but also from the viewpoint of our sovereignty and of our independence. Therefore, I am at a crossroads and it will be impossible for me to continue working for the political opening, for the restoration of democracy, and for all the other projects and plans that we have formulated.

The meeting held in Rome has given me absolutely no chance to continue working because, I repeat, I do not foresee any possibility of moving forward when there is an understanding between an important group of bishops and the top pro-Soviet Communist leaders in Chile.

(?That's why I believe) the president will accept my resignation. Frankly, I never thought anything like this could happen. [end recording]

Asked about the aspect that annoyed him most in connection with the meeting held by the bishops and the Marxists in Rome, the minister replied:

[Begin recording] [Jarpa] First, the meeting itself; then the statement by some of them criticizing the measures that the Interior Ministry has adopted precisely to solve the problem of exiles, within our possibilities, and in keeping with the situation prevailing in our country.

[Question indistinct]

[Jarpa] [Words indistinct] church, and I think I have good relations with some distinguished bishops and archbishops. But the truth is that a point has been reached in which I as a Catholic cannot continue to struggle. [end recording]

Minister Jarpa said that one cannot continue struggling against a fierce offensive by the extremists while the bishops, who thus far seemed to be the guarantors of social peace, appear by the side of the Communists, upholding the same [words indistinct] that Marxists have deceitfully affirmed. Asked if there was any other reason for his resignation, Minister Jarpa replied:

[Begin recording] [Jarpa] I have no other reasons, but a feeling that I have failed in my task of moving forward along the road to democracy. Terrorism, the radical positions, and the attitude of some bishops have created an atmosphere in which it is increasingly harder to work. Several obstacles have also been created, obstacles that we cannot ignore.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, in connection with the opening, [words indistinct] do you believe the government will change its stance?

[Jarpa] Look, I cannot say, because the government must make that decision. As far as I am concerned, I have reached a point where I cannot continue working for the opening while extremists and terrorists are taking advantage of the situation. [end recording]

Asked whether his resignation is irrevocable, the minister answered that at the time he could not continue working. I wish, he added, Chileans would understand that this is a war that we have to wage. International terrorism, the armed branch of communism, is waging a war against us, a war that has not come from across our borders. It is an internal war, but there are many people who have adopted ambiguous positions, who have formed alliances with the Communists, and who have encouraged the actions of Communists and of terrorists, he concluded.

Church 'Surprised'

PY052320 Paris AFP in Spanish 2221 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Santiago, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The Chilean Catholic Church has voiced its surprise over remarks made by Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa who said he had resigned his post, thus prompting a cabinet crisis, due to a meeting several Chilean bishops held with pro-Soviet Communists. Jarpa said he could not continue to further the political opening of General Augusto Pinochet's government because he considers it a great mistake to reach any understanding with Communists.

Msgr Brtnardino Pinera, president of the Chilean Episcopal Conference, said: I was greatly surprised to hear the cause that prompted his resignation. Msgr Pinera said the meeting held last week in Rome was part of the church action in favor of exiles and he admitted that some Marxist political leaders attended the meeting. Yet Msgr Pinera said that this was not a political meeting and ruled out any type of agreement between the Chilean bishops and Marxist leaders. Msgr Pinera noted that the Catholic faith and Marxism are entirely incompatible and stated that the Catholic Church is against terrorist violence, and against the violence often used by government security organization, as well.

New Cabinet To Take Oath

PY052254 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Alberto Cardemil, the Interior Ministry under secretary, has reported that the new cabinet will reportedly be sworn in on 6 November. He added that the swearing-in ceremony is initially scheduled for 1800.

POLICE STATION ATTACKED, 2 CARABINEROS DIE

PY051144 Paris AFP in Spanish 0316 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 4 Nov (AFP) -- It has been officially disclosed that an unidentified commando today killed two Chilean policemen during a nighttime attack against a Carabineros station in the suburbs of Santiago. The subversives machine-gunned the building and then hurled at least 3 dynamite sticks against the building's facade. The two Carabineros guarding the entrance were mortally wounded by the dynamite explosions.

Witnesses reported that the attack was carried out by a group of 8 or 10 men and that most of them were riding in a pickup truck that sped past the station, located in La Cisterna district some 10 km from the center of Santiago. It was stated that the Carabineros repelled the attack, but were not able to stop the attackers from fleeing.

One informer stated that one of the policemen who was shot, 23-year-old Elvis Aravena Caceres, died immediately and that the other one, 21-year-old Jose Erices Rodriguez, died in a nearby hospital.

Members of the Carabinero forces, the investigative police (civil), and the National Informations Center (secret police) launched a vast dragnet operation with the aid of helicopters. It was later reported that the vehicle the attackers used was found abandoned in another neighborhood.

The attack against the Carabineros station was perpetrated at approximately 2100, only 2 days after four Carabineros died in a similar attack.

LOOTERS ARRESTED, TO BE TRIED BY MILITARY COURT

PY022044 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1915 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The news now comes from the police sector. According to police reports, over the past few hours police officers from the 12th Investigative Police Precinct in La Florida District have arrested several individuals, some of them with criminal records. These individuals allegedly are responsible for breaking and entering, robbing and damaging stores during the most recent protest, inappropriately called a peaceful protest.

The information gathered by the detectives indicates that, taking advantage of the state of turmoil during the protest day, these individuals managed to loot stores in the La Florida District. They stoned and destroyed signs and then tore down the metal screens of the Los Copihues Drugstore, located at 7012 La Florida Avenue, stealing medicines, toiletries, and other items.

The detainees led a large group of area residents and incited the latter to follow them. The drugstore was completed looted. Its shelves were destroyed and the cash register was damaged. The owners estimated the cost of damage and losses to be about 1 million pesos. The detainees will be placed at the disposal of the office of the judge advocate of Santiago's First District Military Court.

Three minors who live in the Los Copihues neighborhood make up another criminal gang. These individuals, although they are minors, have caused serious damage to public and private property. Among their actions, they looted the liquor store that is located at 7038 La Florida Avenue, where they stole goods worth 700,000 pesos. Some area residents, who were incited by the minors, also participated in this action. For this reason, they, too, will be placed at the disposal of the office of the judge advocate of Santiago's First District Military Court.

SPAIN EXPRESSES 'CONCERN' OVER 30 OCT EVENTS

PY052105 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1654 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 5 Nov (EFE) -- Spanish Ambassador Miguel Solano Aza today expressed to Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle his government's concern about the incidents that occurred during the stoppage on 30 October. This is the first expression of concern from a foreign government to the Chilean Government after the Foreign Ministry stated in a communique that it would not accept any type of protest or expressions of concern from other countries.

The Spanish ambassador told EFE that in his talk with the Chilean foreign minister he had stated that his country's message was only an expression of concern and the opinion of a government that maintains diplomatic relations with Chile, but it does not mean interference or a lack of respect. Ambassador Solano Aza added that a spiral of violence must not be provoked and that the best way to fight such a spiral is to live in a state of law together with democracy.

The Spanish ambassador also referred to the deaths of six Carabineros in two attacks which took place during the past few hours, condemning every type of terrorism, and he asked the Chilean minister to express his embassy's condolences to the families of the victims.

Finally, Solano Aza stated that Spain does not export models nor does it import political recipes; it limits itself to asking that Chile seek an outlet for democracy through dialogue.

REPORTAGE ON EEC COMMISSION PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Urges EEC-Andean Cooperation

PA302229 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Text] Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC Commission, today described the criticism of the IMF as unfair, regarding the IMF's viewpoints on Latin America's foreign debt. Thorn said that one of the main objectives of the EEC is to try to find a solution for the countries that are indebted to the IMF.

[Begin recording] The IMF has been criticized, perhaps unjustly. If the IMF did not exist, perhaps the current situation would not be any better than it is. This is similar to the story about the sick person: When you have a temperature, there is no need to break the thermometer; this is not the way to lower the temperature. However, we must also moderate and blend the IMF policies, taking into account socio-political needs, which perhaps are not the IMF's main concern. In this way, we will be able to find balanced solutions, taking into account the IMF's concerns and also the sociopolitical concerns that have political importance for us [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Referring to the Colombian foreign debt and the IMF report, Mr Thorn said that he is eager to learn more about President Betancur's thoughts on the subject.

[Begin recording] I am also going to discuss the debt problem with President Betancur. Everyone knows that I have been very active on this issue because I have participated in all of the summits in Western countries that have also dealt with this problem. It is important for me to know what President Belisario Betancur thinks so that together we can find a solution. [end recording]

Concluding, Mr Thorn said that he will seek to have the agreement on European economic cooperation with the Central American countries implemented.

[Begin recording] One of the main issues for Europe is promoting the ratification of the cooperation agreement signed last year as soon as possible. This would enable us to use the budgets and the possibilities for cooperation that exist within the framework of the agreements. Later, we would be able to further develop our cooperation. [end recording]

Mr Thorn will meet with President Belisario Betancout as well as with Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and the ambassadors of the EEC countries either today or tomorrow. The community representative's tour, which includes Venezuela and Peru, is linked to the development of relations between the Andean Group and the EEC, and the importance that these countries attach to the Central American situation.

Meets With Betancur

PA311837 Rome IPS in Spanish 0406 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Bogota, 30 Oct (COLPRESS-ASIN) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur said today that certain international credit organizations are trying to impose on Latin America "neoliberal policies that are impossible to implement." He said that those policies are intended "to have us continue to be perpetually the producers of certain raw materials, th prices of which are arbitrarily set by the central countries.

He added: "When we resolve our differences and find common denominators of development in order to be able to pay," there appear on the horizon "hostile signals in various circles that still practice colonialist philosophies." Such policies, he said, "do not stem so much from the countries' domestic problems or from the harsh situation presently prevailing in the region, but from an inflexible attitude toward our peoples where the international distribution of labor is concerned."

The Colombian president made these statements on receiving EEC President Gaston Thorn at the Narino Presidential Palace. He emphasized that Thorn "is sharing with us the experiences of the old world, for the integration of the EEC and the Andean Group and for the search for peace in the world, particularly in Central America."

During his speech, the president mentioned the peace process in Central America and noted the importance of channeling foreign exchange toward plans for the construction and restoration of the physical and social infrastructure of the Central American countries. One possibility could be, he said, "capitalization of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration," which has a good team that has been evaluating the feasibility of developing socioeconomic projects in the region.

In pursuit of this objective, President Betancur announced that an international symposium on Central America would be held on 28 November in the Colombian port of Cartagena. He said that the foreign ministers of the Central American and Contadora Group countries, a group of academicians and experts, and high-level representatives of the EEC member-countries have been invited to the symposium.

In discussing other ways to provide speedy aid to Central America, the president mentioned strenghthening the international Coffee Agreement and expressed regret that in the initial stages of the last International Coffee Council meeting some countries had failed to see the advantages of this and had proposed formulas for reducing the price of the product. The president then mentioned the agreement reached in this regard, but added: "We cannot accept indefinitely a few fixed prices in the agreements on basic products, particularly when international inflation and high interest rates raise the prices of the products that we import from the northern countries. I am certain, he said, that we will continue to find points of convergence, and, because of this, the coffee pact has been the most successful international agreement on basic products in the world's history."

The president also noted the urgent need to make dialogue with the EEC more dynamic, saying: "The 375 million inhabitants of Latin America and the Caribbean have many opportunities for trade, cooperation, and integration with the 300 million inhabitants of Western Europe."

"Latin America," the president said in closing, "has a commitment to democracy and freedom and is advancing with sure steps toward a common denominator of freedoms. However, it needs for the free world to give it a hand and to provide the understanding that will allow it to emerge successfully from this crossroads. We need to enhance the prestige of and support for democracy, not because of paternalistic imposition from power centers but because of a personal conviction of our people's hearts."

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM PERU VISIT

PY021705 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Nov 84 p 9

[Excerpt] After signing a basic agreement for economic and technical cooperation, Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos A. Saldivar returned from Peru on 1 November. The document, which will serve as a basis for promoting greater bilateral exchange, was signed in Lima with Luis Percovich Roca, the Peruvian foreign minister. Saldivar arrived yesterday at 1345 together with Rodney Elpidio Acevedo, foreign relations under secretary; Jose Antonio Moreno Rufinelli, legal adviser to the Foreign Ministry; and Jesus Maria Quiterrez, deputy director of protocol.

Accords Signed

PY032139 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 3 Nov 84 p 14

[Text] The Paraguayan and Peruvian Governments have expressed their determination to promote Latin American solidarity through regional organizations, have rejected all forms of terrorism and violence, and have noted that the physical integration of South America is an undertaking that demands the support of other nations. All this is included in a joint communique that Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Saldivar and Peruvian Foreign Minister Luis Percovich Roca signed in Lima.

The joint communique and the basic economic and technical cooperation agreement were signed this week in Lima by both foreign ministers on the occasion of the official visit of the Paraguayan foreign minister to Peru. Among other things, the joint communique states that the two dignitaries "expressed their concern over the present international situation, which is characterized on the one hand by persistent conflicts and a threat to world peace stemming from the clash between the superpowers and the arms race, particularly in nuclear weapons; and on the other by the crisis that developing countries are experiencing because of the international recession."

Saldivar and Percovich also reasserted their countries' will to promote Latin American solidarity through regional organizations, and they "agreed that it is imperative for the Latin American countries to establish broader means of cooperation." They also stressed their complete rejection of all forms of terrorism and violence, "because they constitute an unacceptable social behavior, regardless of the excuse that people may use to justify it."

Regarding the physical integration of Latin America, the Paraguayan and Peruvian foreign ministers noted that "it is a historic undertaking that demands ample support from all countries of the region." They agreed that the interconnection of the Orinoco, Amazon, and La Plata River Basins "is a great project aimed at achieving this goal." They also expressed their agreement that the establishment of "a multimodal communications system between Asuncion (Paraguay) and Matarini (Peru) would open the immense possibility of achieving regional integration, since through it there would be a communications link between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans." They added that "a letter of intention in this regard will be signed in the near future."

The basic economic and technical cooperation agreement that Saldivar and Percovich signed in Lima notes that Paraguay and Peru will draft and implement joint economic and technical cooperation programs within the framework of their respective economic development policies.

The economic and technical cooperation projects included in this agreement will be encompassed in complementary agreements that will specify their objectives, work schedule, obligations binding the parties involved, financing, the national organizations that will be responsible for implementing these projects, the deadline by which they must be carried out, and the operation plans.

The economic and technical cooperation programs may concern, among other things, the following areas of cooperation: joint and coordinated research activities; development and training seminars that will help to achieve the socioeconomic development of the parties involved; establishment of research institutions, training centers, and experimental research centers; the holding of seminars and lectures; the exchange of information and data and the organization of means to distribute this information; and the establishment of any other economic and technical cooperation system that aims to achieve the development of the two countries within the framework of their respective socioeconomic development policies.

Regarding technical cooperation, the programs encompass scholarships, professional training, the exchange of experts for research and consultation, the exchange of equipment and materials, the exchange of information and experiences, and any other means agreed to by the two countries.

ARGENTINE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES ON VISIT

PY031455 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 3 Nov 84 p 11

[Excerpt] Major General Ricardo Gustavo Pianta, chief of staff of the Argentine Army, yesterday began a goodwill visit to Paraguay. On his arrival at the international airport, Gen Pianta was welcomed by high-ranking members of the Paraguayan Armed Forces.

The distinguished military guest, who came in response to a special invitation, began his activities yesterday afternoon by paying a courtesy call on Major General Alejandro Fretes Davalos, chief of the Paraguayan Armed Forces General Staff.

Later, Gen Pianta also paid a call on Defense Minister Gaspar German Martinez, who decorated him with the Order of Military Merit.

TERRORIST ATTACKS BLACK OUT LIMA, OTHER AREAS

PY061222 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0441 GMT 6 Nov 84

[Text] Lima, 5 Nov (EFE) -- According to official sources, Lima and other central and southern areas of the country were affected tonight by a power cut presumably caused by terrorist attacks, during which a member of the Civil Guard was wounded.

The power cut occurred at 1926 [0026 GMT on Tuesday]. At the same time a group of unidentified individuals carried out a bomb attack against a police station in the San Luis neighborhood, Lima.

A member of the Civil Guard, who was wounded during a shootout near the police station, was rushed to a hospital. Some witnesses of this incident stated that the agent had died, but this information was neither confirmed nor denied on official circles. The attack launched against the police station was mainly aimed at the sleeping quarters which, fortunately, at the moment were empty.

Other dynamite attacks caused damage, but no casualties, in a building belonging to the Economy and Finance Ministry, and in the Higuereta neighborhood.

The blackout affected the entire city of Lima, as well as Ica (300 km south of Lima), Huancayo (400 km east), and other smaller towns in the center and south of Peru.

The power cut took place just as the Council of Ministers was meeting at Government Palace. This prompted an unusually strong police deployment in front of the building and strict traffic control in downtown Lima. At the end of the cabinet meeting, Energy Minister Juan Inchaustegui said that he ignored the real cause of the power cut, adding that it had presumably been caused by terrorist attacks.

The extent of the blackout caused alarm among the population and the immediate closing of public buildings out of fear of looting. The number of policemen in various areas was increased, and bursts of machine guns were heard in several zones. It is believed that the shots were fired as a warning by policemen on duty. Firemen had to aid persons trapped in elevators and take care of other emergencies caused by the blackout.

The electricity supply was restored in some sectors as of 2100 (0200 GMT), while other neighborhoods of the Lima metropolitan area, where 6 million people live, remained in the dark.

BRIEFS

URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR DIES -- Lima, 24 OCt (AFP) -- Uruguayan Ambassador to Peru Elbio Quintana Solari died in Lima today at the age of 69. The cause of the ambassador's death has not been disclosed, but an Uruguayan Embassy source said he died a natural death. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0407 GMT 25 Oct 84 PY]

CONAPRO TALKS ON AMNESTY, SOCIAL SECURITY FAIL

PY060131 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Talks about amnesty, social security, and general education during the National Consensus Commission [Conapro] meeting have failed. The Conapro consultation commission will meet on 9 November to study the possibility of writing an evaluation of its co-called first pre-electoral stage.

The amnesty issue, which was to be put in force 15 March 1985, was not agreed upon since the Colorado Party and the Civic Union are opposed to it. No agreement was reached regarding the social security issue due to doubts arising from the Interunion Workers Plenum [PIT] and from the National Workers Convention. Finally, regarding general education, a bill will be prepared to replace the Education Law. This task will be undertaken by a special group made up of the National Party, the Broad Front coalition, and the intersectorial sectors. Also, the PIT and business representative will meet tomorrow at 1100 to talk about the salary issue.

COURT ASKS FOR REPORT ON FERREIRA'S CONDITION

PY012042 Paris AFP in Spanish 1525 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Sources at the Supreme Court have reported that it has asked the military leadership for an urgent report on the current conditions of the leader of the traditional Blanco Party, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, who has been confined to a military unit in the interior of the country for the past 4 months. According to the sources, the request was made because the attorneys who are defending Ferreira Aldunate questioned how he was being treated. Ferreira Aldunate's case is now before the Supreme Court, and its prosecutor has rejected these accusations.

A few days ago, the conditions of Ferreira Aldunate's confinement deteriorated when he was punished for releasing a cassette recording that was used at several party meetings. According to Ferriera Aldunate's relatives and attorneys, the punishments range from being held incommunicado to detention in a cell 1.8 meter by 2 meters in size, and to his visitors being searched. Ferreira Aldunate's wife and sons have stated that they will not permit the search, which they said is meant to humble them. Last Sunday, Ferreira Aldunate's relatives went to the military unit but could not visit him. According to well-informed sources, his relations with the military are extremely strained.

The Blanco weekly LA DEMOCRACIA today published a letter that the Blanco leader sent to his wife stating that everything began a few weeks ago following an interview he granted to the Argentine newspaper CLARIN. According to Ferreira Aldunate, he cannot listen to the radio, read newspapers, watch television, or listen to music, whatever the source. Other subversive items such as music cassettes and more than 20 cassettes with English-language lessons also have been seized. In his letter, which was sent before he was subjected to the new measures, Ferreira Aldunate stated that the attitude the military has adopted is typical of that of bad losers.

BRIEFS

JANUARY-SEPTEMBER INFLATION -- Montevideo, 9 Oct (AFPO) -- According to official data provided by the Secretariat for Planning, Coordination, and Dissemination, inflation reached almost 51 percent during the first 9 months of 1984. The maximum increase that the government had estimated for 1984 was 45 percent. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0137 GMT 10 Oct 84 PY]

PRESIDENT ON SUPPORT FOR GUATEMALAN REFUGEES

PA051312 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 31 Oct 84 pp 4, 31

[Excerpt] Campeche -- President Miguel de la Madrid on Tuesday reiterated Mexico's support for Guatemalan refugees here, while the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) announced it is rushing two million dollars in emergency food assistance to the 43,000 Guatemalan refugees in Mexican camps.

The assistance, which will come in the form of foodstuffs rather than money, will be allocated over the next six months. It will consist of 2,322 tons of cereals, 465 tons of beans, 232 tons of powdered milk, 155 tons of cooking oil, and an unspecified quantity of meat and fish, the FAO said. The food will be deliverd to all camps inhabited by refugees, the agency said.

De la Madrid, who was in Campeche on a working tour, praised the state's citizens for their "solidarity with the nation and exemplary hospitality and humanitarianism in the task of relocating the Guatemalan refugees in your territory." He emphasized the need to develop and financially strengthen the border areas. "It is a priority of the government to refine and strengthen the national independence, and without doubt one way of doing this is to strengthen our borders, particularly in the case of the southern border," De la Madrid said.

PAN LEADER DEFENDS GAVIN, CRITICIZES PRI

PA012213 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 24 Oct 84 p 3

[Article by Jose Luis Uribe O.]

[Text] Pablo Emilio Madero, chairman of the National Action Party [PAN], stated yesterday that the PAN does not foresee or want a two-party system. He stressed that the people must decide if they want three or four strong political parties.

Madero was interviewed during a reception for the diplomatic corps hosted by Geronimo Prigioni, apostolic nuncio in Mexico. Madero defended the stance adopted by U.S. Ambassador John Gavin, stating that Gavin's reply to the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] chairman does not insult Mexico. Madero said that if the head of a political party makes a mistake, that is not the country's problem; the fact that Gavin answered Adolfo Lugo Verduzco's charges does not constitute an insult to Mexico, to the national flag, or to the homeland. "Let Lugo Verduzco solve that problem; it is his own personal problem, not the homeland's problem," Madero added.

Referring to the charges regarding links between the church and the PAN, Madero said that the government, its party, and its satellites try to win through criticism and slander what they cannot achieve at the polls.

Madero said that the government's moral renewal program is meaningless as long as vote thieves do not go to jail. The PAN leader repeatedly stated that during these times of crisis, the most important thing is to regain credibility.

Madero said that next year's federal elections will provide several opportunities, and expressed hope that the government would take advantage of them since restoring the state's credibility is of utmost importance. The PRI needs to run the same risk as in true democracies, that is, the risk of losing an election, the PAN leader said. When the PRI decides to run that risk it will become stronger, because at present it cultivates mediocrity, he added.

PPS DEMANDS INVESTIGATION OF PAN-U.S. LINKS

PA051310 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 25 Oct 84 pp 1, 15

[Report by Fidel Samaniego]

[Excerpts] The Federal Electoral Commission [CFE] will investigate the National Action Party's [PAN] links with the U.S. Republican Party and other foreign organizations to determine if it has violated the law. The decision to begin an in-depth investigation of the PAN was made at the request of the Peoples Socialist Party [PPS] but with the expressed opposition of the leftist parties: the Mexican Workers Party [PMT], the Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT], and the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM]. The PRI representatives did not participate in the debate on this issue.

On expressing their opposition, the leftist parties indicated that the battle against the right and the PAN — "whose advance must be blamed on the PRI" -- must be waged through class struggle and electoral confrontation rather than through actions that turn the CFE into an inquisitional body or a judge of ideology. They added that when speaking of conspiracies there must be proof. Nevertheless, the PPS used a strategy that assured the approval of its proposal: Instead of directly requesting the revocation of the PAN's registration or legal actions against it, it demanded that the necessary means be established to undertake the investigation. In view of this, CFE President Manuel Bartlett decided to turn the issue over to the CFE Technical Secretariat so that the process requested by the PPS can begin.

It must be noted that after the session, members of the Technical Secretariat explained to this reporter that the investigation of the PAN has, in fact, formally be opened, but they stated that the feasibility of the investigation depends on the evidence that is provided. In this regard, Cuauhtemoc Amezcuz of the PPS said that in the next few meetings he will provide concrete proof of what he insisted on calling "the conspiracy against Mexico by PAN, the clergy, and the U.S. Government."

Cuauhtemoc Amezcua read his party's charge that the PAN, in an increasingly barefaced manner, is playing the role of electoral arm of the right wing and imperialism. He added that it is also evident that PAN supports U.S. Ambassador John Gavin's meddling in the country's politics. He added that the blue and white party is a member of the International Democratic Union, has visible relations of dependence on and political subordination to the International Republican Fund, and participates in the conspiracy against our institutions. As a result of this, he asked that the investigation begin and, if the "responsibilities that are evident" are proven, that PAN's registration be revoked and its leaders tried "for the crime of treason against the fatherland."

Ricardo Pascoe of the PRT then spoke. He explained that his party is an enemy of the PAN. He acknowledged that the right wing has advanced and that foreign penetration is worrisome. However, he added that all of this is the fault of the PRI and the government's economic policy. He said that a bureaucratic action such as the one proposed by the PPS will not eliminate PAN or the right wing's political strength, since this must be accomplished through the organization of the workers and the presentation of real alternatives, which the PRI can no longer provide. He concluded by stating that the CFE cannot be a political or ideological judge of parties.

Eduardo Valle of the PMT said that the systematic and blatant interference by U.S. diplomats in our affairs is evident. He added that the PAN must explain to the nation its links with the U.S. Republican Party, but he stated that there is only journalistic evidence of this. He said there were no legal grounds for Amezcua's charge and stressed that it is very serious to speak of conspiracies without firm foundations.

Sabino Hernandez of the PSUM also spoke of the close relationship between PAN leaders and John Gavin, but he said: We must not open the path for the CFE to become an inquisitional tribunal since this seriously threatens our political life.

In the face of all of this, PAN representative Jose Gonzalez Torres calmly and even ironically said: "The PPS is exercising a right. To request our dissolution is consistent with the reason for its existence."

"The commission has the duty to act consistently. By the way, we would ask that it study the PPS' links with Soviet organizations."

The representatives of the PRI and the Chamber of Deputies and the senators remained silent. The representative of the Mexican Democratic Party also remained silent.

In view of this, Manuel Bartlett Diaz announced that in accordance with the PPS' recommendation, its request was turned over to the Technical Secretariat so that "the necessary means to undertake the investigation" can be established.

PAN Denies U.S. Funding

PA010157 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 26 Oct 84 pp 1, 6

[Report by Luis Felix-Flores]

[Excerpt] Pablo Emilio Madero, president of the opposition National Action Party (PAN), said Thursday that a full probe of Mexico's political parties would show "many other parties" with strong foreign ties, as is not the case with the PAN. Madero's statements came on the heels of charges by the Popular Socialist Party (PPS), which accused the PAN once more -- as it has been doing for more than 30 years -- of obtaining funds from the Republican Party of the United States. It again demanded that the government cancel the PAN's political registration as a legitimate party. This time, however, the PPS went further than usual in its accusations, charging that the conservative party should not only be "investigated" but that its leaders should be tried for treason.

BELIZE

NONALIGNED NATIONS AT UN VOICE STRONG SUPPORT

FL031336 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Ministers and heads of delegations of the nonaligned countries meeting at the 39th session of the UN General Assembly in New York have again voiced their support for Belize. In a communique issued at the end of their meetings, the ministers and heads of delegations reiterated their unconditional support for the independence and territorial integrity of Belize, and their respect for the right of Belize to determine its future as a nation, free and sovereign, within its land and boundaries. They emphasized that any threat or use of force against Belize is unacceptable, and also reiterated their commitment to the solution of disputes by negotiation and other peaceful means.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN EXILES PICKET EMBASSY IN SAN JOSE

PA030042 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] A group of Nicaraguans in exile in Costa Rica today picketed before the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose to protest the electoral process to be held in Nicaragua on Sunday. Carrying the Nicaraguan flag, they sang the national anthem and shouted slogans against the Sandinist government. They accused the current government of steering the country toward Marxism-Leninism. The group also burned an effigy of Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The group of Nicaraguans said that they wanted a democratic electoral process and, therefore, requested that Sunday's elections be postponed. The city police were on alert to prevent any type of confrontation during this basically peaceful demonstration.

DATE, PLACE OF CONTADORA MEETING UNDECIDED

PA030117 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said that no date has been set for the next joint meeting of the Contadora Group. Gutierrez added that he had received a telephone call from one of his colleagues, whose name he did not reveal, telling him that the next meeting could possibly be held in Brasilia on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly. Gutierrez said that his colleague had said that he would confirm this but that he has not received word as yet. Gutierrez added that he had received no information regarding the meeting from the Contadora Group foreign ministers.

Foreign Minister Gutierrez said that all the forces that represent violence, such as confrontations and an increase in hostilities in Central America, are against the Contadora process. He stressed that aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas goes against the Contadora spirit which is a spirit of peace. Regarding U.S. aid to the Salvadoran Government in its struggle against the guerrillas, he said that this aid is for the defense of a democratic government and against those who wish to end this democracy.

EL SALVADOR

UNGO DISCUSSES LA PALMA, FUTURE OF CONTADORA

PA050350 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Oct 84 pp 2A, 30

[By Francisco Garfias]

[Text] Paris, 22 Oct -- Guillermo Ungo, leader of the FDR and one of the main participants in the historic meeting held in La Palma with President Duarte, told EXCELSIOR today that the opening of a dialogue between the authorities and insurgents in his country is proof of the "legitimacy and validity" of the 1981 French-Mexican statement that recognized the Salvadoran armed opposition as legitimate.

"The La Palma meeting gave validity to the statement within the country and even the Salvadoran Government admitted this when it recognized us as a legitimate struggle force and that without us there can be no solution," the insurgent's political leader explained. The insurgents have been fighting with weapons for more than 5 years to achieve significant changes in the current unjust structures that caused the outbreak of a civil war in his country.

Following a news conference held this afternoon in the Maria Therese Eyquiem room of the French Socialist Party's headquarters, the Salvadoran leader, dressed in an elegant grey suit that disappointed some French reporters who expected to find him dressed as a "Che Guevara type guerrilla," said:

"We have been saying for quite some time that the French-Mexican declaration is being increasingly viewed as legitimate and valid not only because of the acknowledgment it has received from the parties in conflict, but also because it points to the causes of the conflict, noting that they must be eliminated to resolve the situation."

He added: "Reagan was able to make several Latin American countries reject this declaration. Now, however, Contadora has picked up the spirit of the declaration and has been supported by all of the Latin American countries where there is no military dictatorship. [quotation marks as published]

On his way through Paris from London, where he participated in an international conference on Central America, Guillermo Ungo insisted throughout the 60-minute interview that the dialogue proposal made by Jose Napoleon Duarte at the United Nations "was apparently made expecting a negative reply or to create conditions for blocking a dialogue."

Ungo noted that during the past 3 years, the government refused to hold a dialogue and presented conditions that were impossible to meet, conditions" such as the putting down of arms by the rebels, something that would have represented a surrender." Ungo said that Duarte made the proposal "trying to tie our hands and then asking us to play basketball."

"When Duarte made his proposal he spoke of the meeting as if it were to be something out of a western movie, with the sheriff approaching from one end of the street and the other guy from the other. The proposal excluded us, the FDR, so that we would reject it. However, Duarte changed his mind when we, showing signs of FDR-FMLN unity, accepted it. [quotation marks as published]

UNgo said he hopes that "no effort is made to impose conditions on us" for the forthcoming meeting scheduled for the first half of November," since two sides are necessary for there to be a dialogue."

Ungo appeared to be optimistic about the probability that the dialogue initiated in La Palma will continue. "There are mechanisms for this. The date has practically been set. There are aspects that create conditions. We, on our part, will continue making every effort and assuming risks to continue the dialogue."

When newsmen asked Ungo about the U.S. position following the La Palma meeting and about recent statements by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that U.S. military advisers could be sent to Salvadoran areas where they have not been before, Ungo said.

"The growing U.S. military presence in El Salvador is evidence that Washington wants to intensify the war as well as its presence in our country. The U.S. ambassador recently said that this is part of a double strategy of a war and dialogue that looks more like a strategy of dialogue for war to us."

Regarding the refusal of three countries, Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador, to accept the Contadora Document because of U.S. pressure, Ungo said that one must be "cautious in predicting" the outcome of the Contadora peace effort. "The aim of the Reagan administration and the Honduran and Salvadoran Governments to delay any positive result of the Contadora effort is obvious.

Before concluding the interview and leaving for the airport to catch a plane to Panama, Guillermo Ungo said: "In spite of the fact that the dialogue was proposed in a way that presented difficulties for us, and that it was Duarte who convoked the people to go to La Palma, in spite of the state of siege and the repression that provokes fear, we had as much or more support in La Palma than the government.

FMLN FRONT REEMERGES, ANNOUNCES ACTIONS

PA032115 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] The Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front, a group that disagrees with the central command of the People's Liberation Forces [FPL], a member organization of the FMLN, has reemerged in San Salvador. According to the front, it has killed several death squad collaborators.

According to a communique, these actions were carried out in Cuscatancingo, Soyapango, and Quezaltepeque, near the capital. The front explained that is not associated with an alleged revolutionary organization that emerged in recent days and that has been named after Roberto Sibrian. The communique adds: We duly call this to the attention of our rank and file and people in general so they will not be confused by irresponsible positions.

CHURCH REPORTS 45 DEATHS IN COUNTRY'S VIOLENCE

PA051546 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] The Catholic Church, through the Legal Assistance Office, has reported the deaths of 45 people in the week that ends today. San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas reported at the cathedral today the deaths of 45 citizens as a result of political violence. These people were killed in the period between 26 October and 1 November. He noted that according to the San Salvador Archbishopric's Legal Office, 1 person was killed by a death squad and 25 alleged guerrillas were killed in counter-insurgency operations. He said that 3 civilians were killed by the FMLN and that this group also inflicted 17 casualties on the Army. He said that all this makes us hope that the path opened with the 15 October 1984 dialogue will continue until the goal is reached. Rivera y Damas said: We will insist on having a sincere and honest dialogue to put an end to violence and achieve peace.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT COMMISSION DISCUSSES ASSASSINATION PLOT

PA022333 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 0340 GMT 2 Nov 84

[News conference granted by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, Presidential Office Secretary Ubodoro Arriaga Iraheta, former Presidential Office Secretary Carlos Flores Facusse, and other members of the Government Commission appointed by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova with unidentified reporters at the Honduran Foreign Secretariat's Diplomatic Room in Tegucigalpa -- live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Paz Barnica] ...A veritable modern-day challenge against the nation's dignity, against Honduran democracy, and against the people's rights. I will now introduce the Presidency secretary, Deputy Carlos Roberto Flores, and Deputy Rafael Pineda Ponce, in order to [8-second break in transmission]

[Reporter] Mr [words indistinct], you speak of destabilizing actions. Does this mean that certain internal political sectors are trying to destabilize President Suazo's constitutional government?

[Paz Barnica] [Words indistinct] no one in this country is ignorant of the fact that in recent months there has been a systematic campaign to destabilize the democratic institutions born of the people's sovereignty. This campaign has intensified in the past few days. As the Honduran Government's official declaration states, there is clear evidence that certain sectors have been systematically trying to divide not only Honduran society, but various permanent institutions that are fulfilling their constitutional duties, institutions such as the Armed Forces [words indistinct] to the national government. I think these are indeed challenges, terrible acts of defiance to the democratic conscience of all Hondurans. The Honduran people, who can see things very clearly already, know how to determine who is responsible for these actions which in no way benefit our country but, on the contrary, challenge the dignity of the Honduran nation.

[Reporter] Can you mention some of these actions?

[Paz Barnica] The communique, the official statement issued, speaks for itself and is very eloquent. Several examples are mentioned there.

[Reporter] Can you tell us what the Honduran Armed Forces' stance is now that the discovery of this plot has been announced to the national and international public?

[Paz Barnica] Total support for President Suazo Cordova's constitutional and democratic government. They have repudiated this criminal plot to assassinate a democratic leader who was freely elected by all Hondurans. Their stance has been to strengthen their unyielding unity as a permanent institution at the service of the country's interests.

[Reporter] (?I understand) that this afternoon, in an effort to protect President Suazo's life, the Comayagua Battalion was deployed to [words indistinct]?

[Paz Barnica] President Suazo Cordova is always fully protected from the enemies of democracy both here and abroad by both the Honduran Armed Forces and the Honduran people. Here in Honduras there are many useful fools, or perhaps intelligent but foolish people at the service of extreme left or extreme right that conspire against Honduras.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Secretary, could you [words insdistinct]?

[Paz Barnica] The extremes always meet. Both the extreme right and the extreme left are despicable and disgusting. However, I do not wish to monopolize this event and I would like Mr Flores, Mr Ubodoro Arriaga, and Professor Pineda Ponce to express their views as well, as they are members of this high-level commission appointed on an emergency basis by President Suazo Cordova.

[Question indistinct]

[Flores Facusse] In the public declaration released by the foreign secretary on behalf of the government, we see that a strategy to destabilize the country's democratic institutions is denounced.

The constitutional government presided over by Dr Suazo Cordova has been repeatedly called into question in recent months. There has been some sort of systematic harassment, not constant criticism but the censure of the various international and domestic policies adopted by President Suazo Cordova's administration. There has been harsh and groundless questioning of economic and financial policies. Public declarations have sought to tarnish the image of this electoral process, the process that is now beginning, the process for the democratic consolidation of our institutions. Some have even suggested that certain organizations, which are a part of our legal institutional system should move away from the path outlined in the national Constitution. All this suggests that an effort is being made to create political instability and give the impression that we are in the midst of chaos and disorder. This is being done with a specific purpose in mind.

An attempt against the constitutional president of the republic is also an attempt against the legally established regime. Everything we have seen suggests that an attempt was being made to create a climate that would give the Honduran people the idea that their institutions are not functioning properly. As has now been discovered, the strategy called for killing the president and creating chaos and anarchy, thus bringing the antidemocratic, unconstitutional, and reckless purposes of these individuals to culmination.

As the investigations conducted bear out, I think members of both the extreme right and the extreme left are involved in this and that both individuals and groups are involved.

[Reporter] When you mention both the extreme right and extreme left, does this mean that the Honduran people's constitutional government should trust neither extreme because the government is being attacked from both sides?

[Flores Facusse] We have denounced this kind of strategy, which is designed to destabilize our democratic institutions, in the past. We have indicated that many of the questions and charges against the government and President Suazo Cordova himself are groundless because certain institutions were being used as instruments for this purpose.

Dr Suazo Cordova's administration bases its policy and its doctrine on a just and centrist position, on the side of the Honduran people, trying as much as possible and with the available resources, to bring about an authentic, positive, and substantial transformation in this country, trying to consolidate and strengthen the process of democratic institutionalization. I think that those who are not satisfied with this situation, that is, with the defense and consolidation of our democratic institutions, those who are resentful and feel alienated from the country's historical evolution, must in some way be sponsoring disorder, chaos, and instability to the detriment of the authentic aspirations of the Honduran people.

[Reporter] Mr Arriaga Iraheta, a while ago, as the attorney general was leaving the Foreign Secretariat, she said that even the 250,000 lempiras that Juan Pablo Urrutia Raudales is accused of receiving from Dr Suazo Cordova is a part of the plot against the president.

[Arriaga Iraheta] There is no doubt that when there is the desire to destabilize a democratic government, various actions are carried out, all of which are aimed at the same thing: destabilizing the government. This is known as a kind of process of undermining the government. The government is discredited, the people's trust in the government is weakened, the government's prestige is diminished, it is charged that the democratic system which is being tried out [17-second break in transmission] the conquests made by these people. The rights that have been won by the workers and peasants are in serious danger.

The private sector, which at present is existing in a de jure state, will also lose its guarantees. Efforts are currently being made to consolidate these guarantees so there can be freedom and security in the country. The private sector, democratic and progressive, will also suffer serious consequences.

The only path left is for all democratic sectors in this country to come together into a single force to defend the democratic process. A great enterprise has already launched this initiative: The Emisoras Unidas enterprise, Channel 5 and Honduras Radio Nacional, is already carrying out a great campaign in defense of the democratic system. This is what all of the country's groups and democratic sectors should do. The peasants and their organizations, the workers, the businessmen, all democratic sectors, the intellectuals, the youths, the professionals must all defend this system. Otherwise, we would be led into some other system that the Honduran people do not want, since they turned out en masse at the polls in 1981.

[Reporter] My question is for Mr Arriaga. In the wake of this afternoon's announcement about the international plot to (?assassinate) President Suazo Cordova, a rumor has been circulating in political circles that dissident factions of the Liberal and National Parties might be involved in this plot. What do you know about this?

[Arriaga Iraheta] I only know what has been reported on the radio stations and in the press. However, we can start from a general rule, and let us hope that the dissidents of these parties are an exception to this rule: He who lacks all possibilities of reaching power by democratic means seeks other means outside the law and the system. I hope and pray that those dissident organizations, which have every right to have their own opinions, abide by the law and democratic principles. We must defend this system and we must define the rules of the political game. Other, more appropriate rules have not yet been found; man has not yet invented other rules. The rules of the democratic game with which we are familiar call for free elections and for the freedom and independence of the various branches of power. That is the path we must continue to tread. We must try to imitate Colombia and Venezuela, where problems have finally been resolved and where democratic systems have been firmly consolidated.

[Reporter] Without a doubt, upon hearing the statements made by the members of this high-level commission, many sectors in the country, especially among the opposition political parties and the dissident liberal factions, must be very concerned. Does this mean that after today there will be no chance to express criticism in this country now that it has been charged here that there is a systematic campaign. I think that every democratic process entails the free exchange of ideas, especially in view of the electoral process.

[Flores Facusse] We believe that criticism plays a part in any republican and democratic country. Criticism represents an analysis of positive things, as well as of those things that the analysts regard as negative, as mistakes. So we not only applaud the fact that there is healthy criticism in this country, but we encourage this type of analysis. However, sometimes it is not just criticism per se that is expressed, but rather systematic censure. There is scant recognition of the various successes of the administration, while critics magnify what they regard as mistakes or errors by the administration.

When this type of situation becomes systematic, and when alongside this situation some begin referring to other possibilities that might not be constitutional and democratic but lie outside of the electoral process, then it is logical to assume that those who talk like this have other motives or purposes. In other words, we think that there is only one path in this country: the electoral path, the consolidation of the electoral process. But when certain views are expressed, for instance, when institutions that are a part of our juridical-political structure are urged to move away from the path outlined in the national Constitution; when they are urged to disregard the functions and responsibilities established in our Constitution; when there is talk of possibilities other than the ones established in the national laws, we say that this is no longer criticism. More than censure, this is dangerous provocation against the country's institutions.

Within the political parties, we regard struggle, conflict, and internal debate as natural and normal. We believe that this strengthens the country's institutions. It is also just and correct to have debate among the various political parties. That, which some call division, we call the exercise of democracy. Now, when that kind of attitude is analyzed and an effort is made to give the impression of a profound division within the Honduran family, a division that does not exist, the idea behind this is to create a certain climate, to create a certain perception, to give the impression that we are in the midst of instability and chaos, for some given purpose. We regard this as dangerous. When the efforts to consolidate democracy and strengthen an institutional process are interpreted differently and there is a tendency to disparage values or to seek to disparage values, then we regard this as dangerous and we responsibly indicate so. We think there should be criticism in any democratic country, but criticism should not be confused with this other type of stance.

[Reporter] Dr Paz Barnica, what are the positive or negative international repercussions of an action of this type, which has been widely reported abroad?

[Paz Barnica] [Words indistinct] (?because) if the conspiracy discovered and dismantled by the U.S. security and investigative authorities had (?materialized), this would have logically created a chaotic situation in our country. This would have directly exacerbated the Central American crisis. I agree with Flores Facusse's answer earlier that criticism is both necessary and positive for the functioning of democracy at the level of political parties, of society, and of social organizations. But systematic censure as a means of destabilizing a government that emerged from the people's will is no longer constructive criticism but destructive censure.

When one criticizes the Honduran Government every day for its actions on behalf of Honduran society; when its foreign policy is questioned and it is charged that our country has no right to arm itself as a deterrent; when Honduras' peace-oriented stance within Contadora is systematically criticized; when Daniel Ortega Saavedra's statements are cited, as well as those of Foreign Minister D'Escoto, as the [word indistinct] views of a given sector, one is consciously acting as an accomplice in an action intended to destabilize the nation's institutions.

Moreover, it must not be forgotten that in recent months, many groups have been conspiring, as Flores Facusse was saying, groups from the extreme left and the extreme right. Certain economic groups had political power and lost it after the 31 March incidents, and they are conspiring to regain their privileges. Then there are sectors that have economic power and now want political power. They too are conspiring. These latter sectors are the ones that Marx called shameful materialists. At bottom they are right wingers who want to be fashionable with some sort of reformist dialectic, which no longer convinces anyone. Democrats should be real democrats, (?conscientiously). I believe that the international repercussions of a situation of this kind would be harmful and retrogressive for Honduras and would help aggravate the Central American situation. Fortunately, the people fully endorse President Suazo Cordova's democratic government. The Armed Forces have a changed and changing attitude in accordance with the democratic interests and they fully abide by the national Constitution. We all know each other here, and know each others' virtues and defects.

GOVERNMENT CANCELS APROH'S LEGAL STATUS

PA031828 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Resolution No 154 issued by the Government and Justice Secretariat on 2 November in Tegucigalpa and signed by President Roberto Suazo Cordova and Government and Justice Secretary Arnulfo Pineda Lopez]

[Text] The constitutional president of the Republic (?in accordance with) the recommendation submitted on this date by the Attorney General's Office to the Government and Justice Secretariat, has decided to proceed to immediately cancel the legal status of the Association for the Development of Honduras, APROH, because its actions have contradicted and continue to contradict what is established in its statutes and current public order regulations.

It follows that on 10 January 1983, through Resolution No 3 issued by the executive branch through the Government and Justice Secretariat, APROH was granted legal status and its statutes were approved. It follows that this legal status was granted because the statutes of this association did not contradict the country's laws, public order, morality, and good habits.

Considering that the national Constitution guarantees the right of association so long as it does not contradict public order, morality, and good habits;

Considering that the Attorney General's Office has analyzed the case of this association and has recommended that either its dissolution or its extinction as a legally-established organization be decreed in view of the fact that its actions contradict the public order currently in effect and the democratic system of Honduras;

Considering that various organized social sectors have publicly denounced the activities of this association, which contradict the purposes and ends for which it was created;

Considering that the national Constitution empowers the executive branch to issue resolutions in accordance with the law and obliges it to fulfill and enforce the Constitution and the laws;

Therefore, the constitutional president of the Republic, exercising the authority bestowed on him, and implementing numerals I and II of Article No 245 of the national Constitution, resolves:

1. To cancel the legal status of APROH, invalidating Resolution No 3 issued on 10 January 1983, which granted legal status to APROH and approved its statutes;
2. To order that the property of APROH be given appropriate destination in accordance with the law.
3. This resolution will go into effect on this very date. To be released.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA PROCLAIMS FSLN VICTORY IN ELECTIONS

PA051934 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1853 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Managua, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the virtual new president of Nicaragua, this morning proclaimed a Sandinist victory in Sunday's general elections. At a news conference with numerous foreign newsmen Ortega said that "with the data on the vote count we have up to now, we consider the Sandinist Front the winner in the elections." Up until now 10 percent of the total electorate has been counted, giving the FSLN 65 percent of the votes in the presidential and legislative elections.

ORTEGA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON 5 NOVEMBER

PA052133 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1830 GMT 5 Nov 84

[News conference held by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at Government House in Managua -- live]

[Text] [Ortega] Well, yesterday we concluded the great electoral day here in Nicaragua. We are pleased over the large voter turnout, which is beginning to show in the results of the ballot-receiving boards that have already reported their figures to the Supreme Electoral Council. We can say that the great struggle that we carried out against abstention was won. In other words, Nicaragua won the election battle, which was the most important battle. In this way, the will of the Nicaraguan people to reaffirm the democratic process that the FSLN and the Sandinist people's revolution have been promoting was expressed.

Taking into account the vote count that has been made by the ballot-receiving boards, it can already be said that the FSLN is the political force that won the elections by a large margin. We can already say that the FSLN is the winner in these elections. The Nicaraguan people have given their support to the FSLN and at the same time they backed the political pluralism that the Sandinist people's revolution defends by also voting for other political forces because these forces are showing percentages that must not be underestimated. The Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua and the Independent Liberal Party are receiving percentages that are quite similar. Next in the number of votes, we have the Popular Social Christian Party, and last, the Communist Party of Nicaragua, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, and the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Party.

We think that this trend in the percentages will continue, with only slight changes, until we have the final official results. However, at this moment we already consider the victory of the FSLN in these elections a fact.

[Moderator] We will now have the question and answer period. As usual, we ask you to please give your name and identify the media you represent.

[Reporter] I understand that the FSLN estimated that it would win from 80 to 90 percent. According to the preliminary figures, the FSLN is winning by approximately 70 percent. What does this 10 percent difference mean to you?

[Ortega] What we said is that the people's participation in the elections would be approximately 80 percent. This was a prediction made in the battle we were fighting against abstention. This 80 percent figure was reached.

As to abstentions, it is good to explain that we have noted that the percentage of abstentions should not be called the abstention percentage but the percentage of non-voters, because that figure includes those who did not vote because they were killed by counterrevolutionary forces after they registered; others who did not vote because they were in military confrontation areas and were not able to participate in the voting; hundreds of Nicaraguans who did not vote because they were kidnapped by counter-revolutionary forces during this electoral period; and also a percentage of people who did not vote and who were completely aware that they were not voting because they were following a policy of abstention. However, we believe that they were a minority.

Regarding the votes in favor of the FSLN, we said at a news conference held before the voting began that the greatest victory would not be the votes received by the FSLN but the mass participation of the people regardless of who they voted for. However, we were always certain that the FSLN would win these elections by a vast majority.

The trend that became evident this morning, 72 percent for the FSLN, is now 67 or 68 percent. This reaffirms the people's trust in the FSLN because despite the difficult situation the country is experiencing, the economic crisis, and the confrontation situation as a result of U.S. policy, the Nicaraguan people are giving their support to the FSLN clearly and en masse. This is what is important.

[Hessman] Tom Hessman of Associated Press. I would like to know if now that the electoral process is over the government plans to make any changes in the state of emergency and in the rules for the freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, and so forth?

[Ortega] It is a matter of trying to maintain existing liberties. One must take into consideration the fact that a very important political opening was created in Nicaragua. We are going to make every effort to preserve this political opening. We will try not to affect this political opening. However, the greatest threat to this democratic effort being made in Nicaragua is the policy of the U.S. Administration.

There have been reports from the United States that neither President Reagan nor Assistant Secretary of State [for Inter-American Affairs] Motley has discarded the possibility of intervention against Nicaragua. They have said it themselves. One can never say never, Mr Motley said, quoting Presient Reagan when he was asked about eventual military intervention in Nicaragua. President Reagan has not yet reached a decision to definitely rule out the possibility of military intervention in Nicaragua. Therefore, the threat of intervention still exists.

President Reagan has maintained that he will continue to ask for funds to support the activities of the counterrevolution and these are the main factors against political freedom in Nicaragua.

[Morales] I am Carlos Morales of Costa Rica. One of the main points of the Contadora Document is the demilitarization of the area. How will Nicaragua, the new government, face the intervention policy followed by the U.S. Government and at the same time abide by the Contadora demand to diminish the arms race in the area?

[Ortega] The signing of the Contadora Document would represent a commitment for all Central American governments and also for the United States. For this reason, the United States is not supporting the signing of the Contadora Document. They don't want to be committed by such an agreement.

If the Contadora Document were to be signed this would automatically lead all Central American governments to freeze the supply of weapons and to implement measures that would assure stability for all of the Central American states, which would be committed to not participating in any action against another Central American state. Therefore, the signing of the document would represent a framework of mutual security for all Central American states and for the United States as well. This is why the signing of the document is an important element for peace. It could also represent a change of policy in the Central American countries. Nicaragua, for example, would not be under pressure to obtain weapons if we secure a peaceful situation.

[Jenkins] I am Tommy Jenkins of London's THE GUARDIAN. Commander, apparently some of the leaders of the Democratic Coordinating Board were very upset with your speech in the Plaza closing the elections campaign because you said that the true national dialogue is taking place in the factories, in the battlefields, and so on. There are also leaders of parties that registered in the electoral process who apparently place more trust in the process of national dialogue than in the new Constituent Assembly, that will emerge as a result of these elections, to lead the democratic process along a more, as they say, democratic, more pluralistic road. Therefore, I have two questions: First, what importance do you attribute to the national dialogue?

My second question is, to what extent are you prepared to reach agreements in line with the national dialogue through discussions with all of the political parties and to convey these agreements to the Constitutent Assembly so that agreements may be established in the new constitution?

[Ortega] I believe that the massive voter turnout by the Nicaraguan people -- it is estimated that 82 percent of the people voted yesterday -- represents a great national dialogue. Yesterday, the Nicaraguan people had the opportunity to choose different political alternatives from among seven political parties. The Nicaraguan people have therefore established a true national dialogue that will have a specific result. This also leads to political stability in the country. Let's say that the 80 percent of the Nicaraguan people who spoke yesterday are holding a dialogue with minority sectors who have claimed they represent the Nicaraguan people but who in reality represent minority Nicaraguan sectors.

The national dialogue will continue among the Nicaraguan people who voted en masse. This national dialogue will continue within the National Constituent Assembly. This will be the great power of Nicaragua. It is there that the constitution will be drafted.

The dialogue that is being promoted among leaders of political, social, and economic organizations; businessmen, religious people, and so on is a dialogue aimed at stating opinions to strengthen democracy. Its purpose is not to be a substitution for the National Constituent Assembly, which is a power really resulting from the will of the Nicaraguan people. The role of the dialogue is to make known the opinion of sectors that are not participating in the National Constituent Assembly. These sectors can talk with those who participate in the dialogue, and who at the same time participate in the National Constituent Assembly, and can make proposals that would be considered by the members of the assembly. Having two political institutions, the Constituent Assembly on one hand and the national dialogue on the other, is not a case of promoting political waste. The national dialogue must be seen as an element aimed at strengthening democracy, defending Nicaragua's sovereignty, and defending peace.

[Barrini] Roberto Barrini of CUADERNOS DEL TERCER MUNDO. As part of the national dialogue process and the search for peaceful solutions, would the Sandinist government be willing to talk to people linked to the counterrevolution? For example, Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora?

[Ortega] We believe it is best to talk to thos directing the counterrevolution, namely U.S. leaders. The fact that President Reagan has insisted that he will continue requesting millions for the counterrevolution leaves no doubt as to who is supporting the counterrevolutionary forces. Therefore, any understanding or agreement must be reached with the United States, not with the middlemen, the persons that you mentioned.

[Salarriaga] Alberto Salarriaga of Colombia's COLPRESS. Commander, how would you define the new political phase beginning now in Nicaragua? What kind of democracy will prevail in this country?

[Ortega] Well, this is a profoundly revolutionary democracy to the extent that it is aimed at satisfying the needs of the Nicaraguan masses, at first seeking peace, and in addition, at maintaining the Nicaraguan peoples' standard of living and at improving this standard as peace is achieved.

This implies that the various sectors of Nicaraguan society that are better off must work, produce, and invest in order to achieve an equilibrium among all social sectors. They must share the problems of the Nicaraguan people. During this phase, we are dealing with a struggle to defend our country, achieve peace in Nicaragua, and strengthen democracy. The process of strengthening democracy will be consolidated with the creation of the constitution that will be forged during the next few years in the National Constitutent Assembly.

This constitution will establish the bases of the social, economic, and political rules that will prevail in Nicaraguan society. The FSLN will continue defending pluralism and a mixed economy, and at the international level it will strengthen the nonalignment principle.

[Sosa] Carlos Sosa of Mexico's "24 Hours." Commander, undoubtedly the people supported you in Sunday's elections. This completely changes your viewpoint as a ruler. Now, what are your viewpoints regarding the Contadora Group, the Central American countries, and those hampering Nicaragua's democratization?

[Ortega] I believe it is important to make it clear that we will approach the office of Nicaraguan head of state as a national function. We will govern reflecting all of the interests that exist in Nicaragua and the interests of the political parties. We will promote a policy of national unity. This implies that we will project this policy of national unity -- which the FSLN has furthered since the triumph of the revolution -- abroad, as we have been doing, seeking rapprochement and detente with the Central American governments on a bilateral and multilateral level. The Contadora Group is an example of this and it was created to conduct political negotiations. There is also the Central American Common Market, which is in such a sorry state. We will continue to promote this policy.

[Maldonado] Alberto Maldonado of Quito, Eduador. Commander, what has been the impact of the aggression against the Sandinist revolution on the political and economic fields? How does the revolution deal with this problem?

[Ortega] The aggression has dealt hard blows on Nicaragua's efforts to reestablish democracy and revitalize its economy. It has attempted to obstruct the national reconstruction efforts at all levels: economically, politically, and socially. The figures on the direct damages caused by U.S. aggression are well known. In agriculture, we have lost $150 million this year due to the direct impact of U.S. aggression. More importantly, there is the loss of the lives of thousands of Nicaraguans. Several months ago, specifically on 19 July when we commemorated the fifth anniversary, we said that the number of Nicaraguan victims in these 3 years and 10 months of U.S. aggression surpassed 7,000. At this time, we can state that this number is now more than 8,000 Nicaraguans. In other words, more than 8,000 Nicaraguans have been victims of this U.S. aggression policy. The most painful aspect is the loss of the lives of Nicaraguan youths and children who are the victims of the crimes by the counterrevolutionaries. This is a policy of terror that has a direct effect on Nicaraguan society. I think this is the most brutal aspect. The brutality of the aggression, the terrorism of the aggression, and the efforts to try to destroy the unity of the Nicaraguan people and demoralize them by indiscriminately killing children, women, the elderly, and youths is more significant than the economic losses and damages. That is the most brutal aspect of this terrorist policy that the U.S. Government has been sponsoring, even to the extent of writing a manual known to everyone, the CIA manual. It includes instructions to use common criminals to undertake criminal acts against the revolution.

[Reporter] [Name indistinct] of [words indistinct] of Norway. My question deals with the new operation and composition of the executive branch that you will probably head and with the work of the National Assembly. What is the possibility that other parties will participate in the cabinet, and above all, who will be the new commander in chief of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces? You as president or as a member of the FSLN National Directorate?

[Ortega] Well, we have said that the National Constituent Assembly, through the constitution, will have the final say as to the characteristics of power in this country. Therefore, the decision concerning the regularity of the elections and the functions of the various branches, namely the executive, legislative and judicial branches, must be made by the National Assembly.

It will be up to the National Constituent Assembly to determine this.

[Osorio] Commander, some international analysts have said that the efforts being made by the Contadora Group are just a respite, prior to a war in Central America. Do you believe that signing that document will really bring peace to Central America? After all, it is one thing to sign the document and quite another to comply with it. I am Regina Osorio of Channel 3, Honduras.

[Ortega] I believe that signing this document will make its enforcement obligatory. After all, the international public has its eye on the Central American problem. The Contadora proposal was prepared by Latin American governments that are characteristically friendly to the United States. Therefore, they cannot present a proposal that runs counter to U.S. interests in the Central American region. It is a proposal that has been supported by the EEC, which is also made up of governments that are allies of the United States. The main U.S. allies in Europe are members of the EEC. The United States is trying to avoid the signing of the proposed Contadora Document because it would be obliged to honor it. Otherwise, it would be unmasked as a liar. Therefore, we believe that it is important to struggle, to continue to struggle to get the document signed because that would automatically force all of us to take specific steps in favor of peace in Central America.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Unidentified speaker] He is from the CANADIAN REGISTER in Canada and wants to know whether press censorship will continue.

[Ortega] Well, as long as there is a war we must maintain restrictions on military information. If you have been reading the newspapers here in Nicaragua, you will realize that newspapers here can express themselves in political and ideological terms in opposition to the revolution. The same applies to radio and television. In other words, press censorship does not apply to political and ideological matters, but to matters of security and defense. As long as we are subject to aggression, we must maintain these restrictions.

[(Klutz)] (Miguel Klutz) of (CAUCE) of Sweden. After many years of political inactivity Nicaragua held elections with a wide-ranging political spectrum. Can you give us your assessment of the political level achieved in this electoral campaign?

[Ortega] We were truly impressed with the high level of awareness and civic spirit achieved by the Nicaraguan people, as well as the high level of organization, because we have held elections at a very difficult, complex time, at a time when all of our political enemies, both those who are participating in the elections and those who are not participating in the elections, have found it easy to make demagogic speeches opposing the revolution and the FSLN, blame everything that is wrong with the country on FSLN policies, and make facile, demagogic promises that they would solve all problems. This has been a constant practice of both the registered and nonregistered parties, of both the rightist and ultraleftist parties that are registered. In this, they coincide with the position of the nonregistered parties. They have criticized the FSLN and blamed it for all of the country's problems, while simultaneously proposing to solve all of the problems.

On the other hand, the FSLN has spoken to the people clearly. What have we told the people? Well, that these problems cannot be solved. The economic crisis was caused by external factors. There are economic problems caused by the unjust international economic relations, and there are the problems caused by the aggression. As long as these two factors exist, the Nicaraguan economy will have problems. Therefore, the FSLN cannot promise to solve the eonomic problems. We must promise to struggle to achieve peace. To the extent that we achieve peace we will be in a better position to face the economic problems.

We can promise to fight profiteering and to fight the effects of the economic crisis in the country, but not to solve economic problems. Some parties have even made such facile promises as increasing wages by 100 percent because in this way they would solve the economic problems. We know that these are simply demagogic statements.

Therefore, we feel that these elections have been a great test of the Nicaraguan people's awareness. Amidst the difficulties, they have shown maturity and self-assurance in supporting the electoral process itself and knowing how to vote. From the people to vote for the FSLN was a sign of confidence in their revolution.

[Hernandez] Julio Hernandez of Mexico's JORNADA. Now that the institutional stage of the elections is over, can you tell us about the advantages of the counterrevolution in the domestic area? Specifically, what about the flight of capital now that the elections are over; the possibility that there will be an increase in the number of Nicaraguans trying to leave the country, mostly for Miami, and the ideological confusion and destabilizing activities promoted from within the country? What will be done about this?

[Ortega] I do not think that the flight of capital can be greater than that just before and after the victory of the revolution. Why? Because those who call themselves businessmen, who are decidedly opposed to the FSLN and who as members of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, have assumed a counterrevolutionary attitude do not have any capital to take out of the country. They took their capital out of the country long ago and are virtually subsidized by the national banks. The true capitalists here in Nicaragua are making free investments; free from political interests either in favor or against the FSLN. They are set on producing and that's all. Therefore, we are not worried about the flight of capital.

Now, regarding the advances of the counterrevolution we feel that the mercenary forces supported by the U.S. Government have failed in all of their endeavors. They have failed militarily. Proof of this is the fact that we were able to hold elections under a relative climate of tranquillity throughout the country. The revolution has also proved its defensive capacity. To this we must add the people's massive participation. What does it all mean? That the diversionist actions, the distorted reports, the lies and slander campaigns promoted by the U.S. Government and carried out by its agents in Nicaragua have not influenced the people's opinion. We have said that if after the 6 November elections President Reagan is reelected he must immediately make one of two decisions: We must decide whether to intervene militarily in Nicaragua right after the elections to take advantage of the enthusiasm of his electoral victory, if it is a landslide as is being forecast, to avoid the strong opposition that he would encounter as time passes. It would suit President Reagan to immediately intervene in Nicaragua. Why? Because the military instrument comprised of the mercenary forces do not have any real hope and this has been corroborated. The trend is for the mercenary forces to wear out and disintegrate themselves. We are seeing contradictions and desertions in the mercenary forces. There is also the internal conflicts within the mercenary forces.

In the ideological and political aspects, the interventionist policy also has been defeated here in Nicaragua. Therefore, either they decide to intervene if they feel that the solution should be through military action, as they have been carrying out until this point, or they decide on a negotiated solution. This is the plain truth of the situation we are facing because from a military viewpoint the mercenary forces activities, the CIA's activities, and the mining of ports are terrorist criminal actions of the U.S. Government that have been disapproved and critized by world public opinion and defeated by the Nicaraguan people's forces.

[Zaldivar] Jose Zaldivar of Mexico's JORNADA. Yesterday, Arturo Cruz said that the much talked about intervention is not going to take place and that Ronald Reagan's policy is clear in that it seeks political and peaceful solutions in Central America.

He also said that the solution to the Nicaraguan crisis depends on the establishment of a government of national conciliation. What is your opinion?

[Ortega] I believe more of what Ronald Reagan says for himself than of what Arturo Cruz thinks about Ronald Reagan. I place more trust in what Assistant Secretary Motley says than what Cruz has to say. President Reagan and Motley are saying that intervention in Nicaragua cannot be discarded. When Motley was asked if they will intervene in Nicaragua if Reagan is reelected he said that one cannot discard the possibility. With a play on words he says that one should never say never. President Reagan insists on seeking support for the mercenary forces. Therefore, we cannot accept this as a peaceful solution. We must see it as insisting on a military solution. That is why I believe more in what President Reagan has said than in what Cruz thinks about President Reagan.

[(Kao)] (Rita Kao) of [words indistinct]. After the elections, what will be the first steps and changes toward the institutionalization of the revolution? Politically speaking, what does institutionalization of the revolution mean?

[Ortega] Well, institutionalization of the revolution means turning the people's will into law through the constitution. The will of the people will be expressed through the drafting of a real constitution. For the first time in Nicaragua's history the constitution will be drawn up by the Nicaraguan people, by the people's will.

[Powers] Mary Powers of REUTER News Agency. In the context of what you just said about a negotiated solution, in other words, as an alternative for the Reagan administration, what is the current outlook for the Manzanillo talks? Regarding yesterday's elections, did the FSLN expect the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCDN] and the Independent Liberal Party [PLI] to receive the percentage that they currently seem to be obtaining?

[Ortega] Regarding the Manzanillo talks, we thought that it was possible to advance in Manzanillo once we have overcome aspects of form. They were rapidly overcome and there was a specific fluidity [fluidez] in the talks. However, after seven meetings a standstill has been reached. It is worrisome that no real advance has been reached before the U.S. elections. We see a U.S. Government attitude opposed to seriously negotiating with the Nicaraguan Government. From the very beginning in Manzanillo the U.S. representatives said that they were interested in strengthening Contadora and that the Manzanillo talks were to strengthen Contadora. When Mr Shultz was in Managua, he also told us that they were willing to begin a dialogue to strengthen Contadora because the solution come in the framework of Contadora. It has been strengthened. We agree that Contadora was strengthened as the dialgoue was under way in Manzanillo. However, in the meantime the proposed Contadora peace document was presented, Nicaragua approved it on 21 September, and the U.S. reply was to begin expressing objections to the Contadora peace proposal. If the United States resists the Contadora peace proposal this means that Manzanillo was just set up by the U.S. Administration for propaganda purposes to support its electoral campaign. This will be put to a test after the U.S. elections because if President Reagan wins, new meetings will be held in Manzanillo -- a new meeting in Manzanillo has been proposed -- and if no results are achieved and if the proposed Contadora peace document is not supported, it will be evident that there was not a willingness to negotiate.

[Reporter] [Name indistinct] of International Swedish Radio. What you have just said clearly shows that the United States does not want to negotiate. The other possibility would be intervention. However, I think there is a third possibility. I do not know what the new Nicaraguan Government thinks of the possibility that the U.S. Government will continue to play with the intervention option and with the dialogue option, but at the same time wage a war of attrition. How will the new government react to this third possibility?

[Ortega] I would like to answer the previous question on the percentage of votes won by the PCDN, the PLI, the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], and the other parties participating in both the presidential and the assembly elections. We can say that it was more or less what we expected, although we have seen that the PCDN has obtained a higher number of votes than we estimated. The immediate projections indicate that the PCDN has obtained a number similar to that of the PLI. The PPSC also seems to have obtained a number of votes that should not be underestimated. Those with a smaller number of votes are the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, and the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Party.

Regarding the third option, it is the option that the United States has been testing during these 3 years and 10 months of war against Nicaragua. They have been trying it out. They have been investing huge sums. I think the U.S. rulers have invested more than $80 million in support of the mercenary forces. They have established a military structure for these aggressions. They have compromised Honduras' sovereignty for this policy of aggression against Nicaragua. They have used Costa Rica's territory to attack Nicaragua. This policy has been unsuccessful for them. It has been unsuccessful in practice at the military level because the counterrevolutionaries are not making substantial advances. The only thing that they carry out each day is the indiscriminate murder of children, women, and the elderly. I emphasize the actions against children. I think the number of children dying in Nicaragua is truly unprecedented. They are the victims of this terrorist policy. A few days before the elections, six Nicaraguan children were killed in San Gregorio. In the famous attack on Santa Clara where the CIA mercenaries said they killed dozens of Libyan and Cuban instructors, they really murdered four Nicaraguan girls and the mother of one of the girls. They wounded another mother and another relative of the girls.

This policy has been unsuccessful. The funds for these mercenary forces have been frozen, at least formally and nominally, by the U.S. Congress. Therefore, they have exhausted this option. They have exhausted this third option that they had been using. Therefore, they have only two options left: the direct military option using the remnants of these mercenary forces that are committing outrages, or negotiation.

[Calife] Eduardo Calife of Ecuador's NUEVA magazine. Bearing in mind that these elections have consolidated the leadership and programs of the FSLN, and taking into account the U.S. argument that in Nicaragua there are no clear rules for the private economy and foreign investment, now that you will be president of Nicaragua as a result of the elections do you plan to make new offers, especially for foreign investment in Nicaragua? If so, under what conditions and outlook?

[Ortega] Regarding the Nicaraguan economy, it has been guaranteed. The politicians opposing the revolution have been saying that there has been no security for the Nicaraguan private sector. But the truth is that the Nicaraguan private sector has been guaranteed by the Nicaraguan revolution and the only condition that it establishes [30-second break in transmission due to power outage, according to announcer] subsidies that have been given to some sectors and the support given to those sectors through foreign lines of credit. Regarding foreign investments, we have had relations with foreign companies; for example, with banana marketing companies. There have been some small investments in the agricultural sectors. We have been willing to accept foreign investments, but we must bear in mind the political elements that have affected foreign investors since the U.S. Government exerted pressures to abolish such investment in Nicaragua. A much discussed law on foreign investment is pending approval. It is now in the process of being technically refined. We think it will help erase some doubts in this regard. However, the essential element that has obstructed the possibility of foreign investment is the climate of war created by the United States in Nicaragua, the insecurity they have tried to create regarding Nicaragua and that they transmit to potential investors in Nicaragua.

[Alvarez] Oscar Alvarez of Radio Sandino. The Latin American peoples are concerned about the unjust trade relations with the capitalist countries. What will your government's position be on the need to negotiate the Latin American countries' foreign debt? This is a constant concern due to the Latin American people's difficult situation. What will your government do to demand better conditions for our country in the international market?

[Ortega] There is a well-known problem in the world and that is North-South relations. Nicaragua has defended those positions that call for just relations between the North and the South; in other words, a framework of relations that will really permit the development of countries like ours, that will permit the possibilities of development, of economic stability, and of economic independence. The financial problem is burdensome, especially for the Latin American countries. We all know the Latin American debt is the highest in the world. It is a debt that is more than $350 billion and one that Latin America can definitely not pay. I think the measures that have been taken to face the critical situations that are on the verge of exploding, in the case of some Latin American countries, are measures that can be considered very circumstantial. They are not measures that will resolve the problem. A drop of water is being used to put out a huge fire. The truth is that the financial system as it is and as it has been can no longer exist. There must be a real change in financial relations. There must be a real moratorium for the Latin American debt because Latin America cannot pay it. Everything else is just a device to maintain a system that died a long time ago and that needs a real adjustment and change. Nicaragua will continue to support the policies that Latin America is demanding in order to be justly treated and to have real possibilities for development.

[Cabrera] Luis Cabrera of Voz de Nicaragua. In your last speech you referred to Nicaragua's grave situation and the possibility of a direct aggression through bombings. You issued a call for the defense of cities: Managua, Esteli, all cities. Are there concrete instructions for the population in view of the possiblity of air bombings by the U.S. Administration?

[Ortega] Yes, we are working intensely to prepare ourselves for a possible U.S. intervention through mass bombings, saturation bombings, and for a possible bombing without the direct intervention of troops. The two possibilities exist in the military arena. We think we have a responsibility to prepare the Nicaraguan people, specifically the inhabitants of the capital because of the capital's political importance, to face a possible bombing and fight a direct intervention by U.S. troops. We are working hard on very concrete plans so that all of the people in Managua will massively join in the defense of our capital and will have their defenses ready for a possible bombing.

Regarding this, I want to refer to the following: A few days ago, the journalists here in Nicaragua must have seen a cartoon in the newspaper LA PRENSA on the U.S. spy plane. We feel this is a mockery of the Nicaraguan people and an act of treason. It cannot be described any other way. I ask myself the following: What would happen in the United States if a U.S. media dared to mock the U.S. Government the day that a Soviet spy plane, a Soviet military plane, flew over U.S. territory and the U.S. Government condemned this action? I do not think the U.S. news media would dare ridicule such an action because of its seriousness. The same would occur in any European country. This shows that in this country freedom of the press is not only used but also abused by attitudes that are truly antinational and unpatriotic. You heard the flight of the plane over our cities that caused justified concern. The newspaper of treason mocks the Nicaraguan authorities because they denounced the danger that the flight signified and because they denounced the violation of Nicaragua's sovereignty and integrity due to the violation of Nicaraguan airspace by a spy plane. The millions of Nicaraguans and the hundreds of journalists and observers present here were witnesses to this. I think this can give us an idea of the low moral quality of those who direct that newspaper, of their twisted minds that lead them to act in this manner. In other words, they are playing with and mocking sensitive issues such as the war and the people's sufferings. You must have noticed that the newspaper completely ignored the killing of the children in San Gregorio.

It did not report anything on this. Therefore, it is a newspaper that is at the service of a foreign government, the U.S. Government that is attacking the Nicaraguan people.

[Mauri] Luis Mauri of [word indistinct] of Barcelona. After the elections, what possibility is there that the social tension and the economic damage caused by U.S. aggression will force the new government to radicalize the Nicaraguan revolutionary process?

[Ortega] We are not interested in radicalizing the process. We are trying to consolidate it, deepen it, and stabilize it in all aspects. Of course, while the aggression exists, it will not be easy to achieve these objectives. Thank you very much.

SUPREME ELECTORAL COUNCIL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

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[News conference held by the Nicaraguan Supreme Electoral Council, CSE, including Mariano Fiallos Oianguren, president of the CSE; members Leonel Arguello, Amada Pineda, Carlos Garcia Caracas, Jose Maria Icabalceta; Julian Corrales, director general of the CSE; and Roberto Evertz, director of electoral affairs at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Fiallos] Good evening. As we announced, the CSE and the electoral bodies under it established a system of ballot-receiving boards. There are a total of 3,892. This figure is very important because this sytem was based on the idea of having the largest number of ballot-receiving boards possible in order to prevent what has occurred in other countries where, instead of having a large number of polling places distributed throughout the country, voters are concentrated in small locations. The closer example is El Salvador. The average number of citizens registered at each of our ballot-receiving boards is 399. However, there are boards that have a higher number than the average figure, especially in the urban locations such as Managua, Leon, Granada, and Masaya. However, because we knew the number of people registered at each ballot-receiving board in those places where there were many people registered, such as the largest one with 1,200, we drew up three electoral lists and established three places where people could cast their secret vote.

Initial reports are very scanty because our system is based on telegraph reports because we do not have a centralized computer system. The reports we do have permit us to say that apparently more than 80 percent of the registered votes have cast their ballots. We must make an important observation. With regard to many of the remaining 20 percent, it might be less than 20 percent, we will be issuing the first consolidated figures at 0545 tomorrow, Monday. The citizens who did not vote are mobilized soldiers, members of the police, and civilians who changed addresses for various reasons. In any case, we believe that thus far, the civic reply, the civic responsibility of the Nicaraguan people was first confirmed during the registration and now in the elections. The elections throughout the national territory took place without any important incidents. We will be issuing the first consolidated figures at 0545 tomorrow.

I think I must comment on the extraordinary order observed in the voting lines, in a country like Nicaragua where for the first time there is a mass turnout in the elections. As a Nicaraguan, I feel very satisfied with this degree of civic responsibility and education of our citizens. The only exception to what I previously said about the absence of incidents was the fact that the counterrevolutionaries, who had spoken of a cease-fire, did not maintain a cease-fire. They tried to attack and they were unsuccessful. In other words, they achieved limited success. Only 11 ballot-receiving boards did not open or were closed. Nine ballot-receiving boards in northern Zelaya near the Honduran border could not open due to the danger of war. I repeat: a total of 11 ballot-receiving boards were affected. Nine could not open in northern Zelaya near the Honduran border and two were attacked one way or another by counterrevolutionary forces in the mountains of Matagalpa and Jinotega.

We must mention here that if the counterrevolutionary forces, who did not respect the cease-fire they offered, were not able to create further damage it was due to the efforts exerted by the Nicaraguan Armed Forces. We must underscore and recognize their efforts. These forces include policemen, soldiers, members of the Military Patriotic Service, reserve forces, and militia members. We can also assert because they have the information to prove it, that the contras exerted their greatest efforts to interrupt and sabotage the electoral process. However, the Nicaraguan Armed Forces were able to prevent their actions. Therefore, the violation of the cease-fire had no substantial effects. Thus far, we only have to deplore the death of one policeman.

Regarding the political parties' inspectors, each party had the right to appoint one for each level of the electoral organization. Therefore, each party had the right to appoint 3,892 inspectors for the ballot-receiving boards, 92 for the zone boards, 9 for the regional boards, and 7 at the center which will receive the telegrams and count the votes. The center is located in this building.

The political parties also exerted their right to send inspectors. The pertinent information is as follows: The PLI...[Fiallos changes remark and switches to English] to avoid problems I will give this information in English directly. The political parties also, as to representatives or watchers, exercised the option of nominating them, of sending them or not. The information is the following: Here in the computation center there are five representatives of the parties; two parties did not send any. That is... [corrects himself] those are the Independent Liberal Party, PLI, and the Marxist-Leninist Peoples Action Movement, MAP-ML.

In the other places, the zonal, regional, and local boards, the numbers are the following: The PLI, 50 representatives; Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC, 360; Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, PCDN, 348; Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN, 385; Communist Party of Nicaragua, PCdeN, 46; FSLN, 3,599; and the MAP-ML, 0.

[Fiallos switches to Spanish] Well, summarizing everything, we believe that the Nicaraguan citizens' participation in the elections has satisfactorily, more than satisfactorily, lived up to our expectations. The participation has been overwhelming and it has also been orderly, with an extraordinary respect for the differences in viewpoints among the different citizens. Therefore, we believe that upon closing, or nearing the closure, of most of the ballot-receiving boards, we may say that the elections in Nicaragua have been a victory for the Nicaraguan people, proof of their civic responsibility and their support for the electoral process that concluded today with these elections.

[Corrales] Those responsible for counting the votes have begun their work and by tomorrow, at 0600 [1200 GMT], you will have the first results of the elections from the ballot-receiving boards' reports, which will be received until 0400. The information that we will give you through bulletins will be the same as that printed on this blackboard. Therefore, as of that moment, you will have thorough information regarding the results of the elections throughout the country.

After 0600, on Monday, we will continue to provide the information every 6 hours. The CSE believes that by midnight Monday it will have the results from 80 percent of the ballot-receiving boards throughout the country. Therefore, a high percentage of the existing ballot-receiving boards will have the election information barely 24 hours after the electoral process has concluded. The journalists will be able to obtain this information through the international press center.

Finally, on Thursday morning we will have received the information from all of the ballot-receiving boards. We will also invite you through the international press center so that you can receive this information directly from us. These will be the preliminary but finals results.

When we speak of these final results, we are referring to those received by telegraph. We will have another type of results that is the truly final result after the recount has been completed. Naturally, this information requires more time since every election council must again count all of the ballots marked by the citizens. This process is repeated in the presence of the party poll representatives. We believe that this process may last 6 days at the most. Information can be obtained earlier from some locations, most of them in the Pacific coast region. However, transferring the election ballots from some ballot-receiving boards on the Atlantic coast will require quite some time. There are some places where one must walk or travel by boat for several days to reach them. In these cases we need more time. That is all.

[Preston] William Preston from the BOSTON GLOBE. I would like to ask Dr. Fiallos to explain in a little more detail the attacks that occurred and the death of, I believe, a policeman. Where was this and at what time? You also referred to attacks in Matagalpa and Jinotega. Please give us the details.

[Fiallos] Thus far we have reports, as I said, of two cases of ballot-receiving boards that had to close: one in Matiguas, Matagalpa Department, due to imminent danger of attack from scattered counterrevolutionary forces in the region; the second was in a place called La Tronca, Matagalpa Department, where an electoral police care was attacked with mortar fire. This is where a member of the police was murdered.

[Question] Peter [name indistinct], SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER. Dr Fiallos, I understand from talks with voters today, that is, some of them told me that the Civic Identification Booklets will be returned to them in 1 month. I did not know this. Please explain why the booklets will be returned.

[Fiallos] Originally, the electoral law called for the return of the civic booklets. As a result of talks held between the political parties, it was agreed that the booklets be retained by the ballot-receiving boards. Consequently, this agreement among the parties was made recently, approximately 15 days ago. Therefore, it is possible that some citizens did not know that they had to leave the booklets after using them.

Also, as a result of agreements among the political parties it was established that after 90 days the citizens could, if they wished, claim their Civic Identification Booklets if they wanted them because after the books are canceled they serve no other purpose. Therefore, a citizen who wants his book can claim it in 90 days.

The CSE flooded the country with notices on radio and television and in the newspapers to emphasize that the civic booklet could only be used for the elections. That is why a period of deposit for the booklet was established, in which it would be returned 3 months later, if the citizen wants it.

[Saldariago] Alberto Saldariago, from the COLPRENSA News Agency in Colombia. How can you guarantee the truthfulness of the telegraph reports received here with voting details?

[Fiallos] In addition to having the assurance, within human possibilities, naturally, that our ballot-receiving boards are going to make an exact report, the immediate telegraph system that we have installed is guaranteed by the enormous combined effort of the CSE and Telcor, the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute. The guarantee is based on the fact that if there is any doubt we can compare what is received here with what is said there. In addition, there will be a second report in which the minutes signed at the ballot-receiving boards can be compared. Every ballot-receiving board will prepare signed minutes. This is the reason why the results that we will begin releasing at 0600 tomorrow morning are being called preliminary.

[(Loveman)] Bernie (Loveman) from CBS. I have two questions: First, during the brief tour I made I noticed that with the exception of the Sandinist Front, the ballot-receiving boards had no party poll representatives from the other parties. Please explain the reason for this. Second, please explain in more detail the reason the CSE extended the voting time until 2000 hours in some locations.

[FIallos] There was no extension of the voting time. What happened is that the ballot-receiving boards could close, first, after all the registered voters voted; second, at 1800 hours in case no one was left standing in line to vote, and third, at any time necessary to give everyone in line an opportunity to vote. This answers your last question.

Regarding the presence of party poll representatives at the ballot-receiving boards, I read the report in which we reported exactly who the accredited representatives are who, as you may have noticed, are very few in number for all of the parties except the FSLN. I prefer to abstain from commenting on this because this question should be asked of the political parties themselves.

[Reporter] I have noticed that null votes are not taken into consideration here. Will this information be given when you give the results?

[Fiallos] You will notice that this board tries to convey the most important information.

[Reporter] We also consider the null and invalid votes important.

[Fiallos] This type of information that contains all of the results of the electoral process will be made known during the recount of the votes. It has already been said here that there are several ways to do the recount: There is the general information that arrives by telegram. Nevertheless, the bulletins will include the null votes, even though they will not appear on the board for everyone's satisfaction. We can include them there because we can add information of this type. On the board, this is not possible.

Very well, if there are no more questions, thank you for your presence and attention. Good night.

FIALLOS COMMENTS ON DELAYS, VOTER TURNOUT

PA051634 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1513 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Interview with Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, president of the Supreme Electoral Council, CSE, by unidentified reporter at the CSE headquarters in Managua -- live]

[Text] [Reporter] From the CSE Headquarters and before the election returns are announced, CSE President Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren is here to report on what has happened thus far and to explain the reason for the short delays that have taken place. Good morning, Dr Oyanguren. You look tired.

[Oyanguren] Well, we have been working incessantly since yesterday when we started covering the elections at the CSE headquarters and later at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in order to count as many votes as possible and to get the most accurate vote count.

We have the results now and it is a matter of minutes before we read them via a national network headed by La Voz de Nicaragua. We have been overly confident on our work groups and our teletype equipment and this has brought about many delays in the transmission of messages, as well as in the totaling procedures. We have to verify each message and in fact this is the first time we have done this. Moreover, to be able to come up with an exact figure, we must add up and then verify each total.

We had planned to leave at 0600, but unfortunately we are 3 hours and 16 minutes late. We apologize for this involuntary delay to you the network workers, to the Nicaraguan people and to national and international newsmen. We had expected to have the results and be able to announce them much earlier than this. We have not been able to do that until now. I will be back in a few minutes to the preliminary official report.

[Reporter] Dr Oyanguren, just one more question. We know you will read results in a few minutes to all our people and the world. We would like to know whether the voter turnout has been high.

[Oyanguren] Well, 82 percent of the 1,[illegible]1,00 registered voters actually voted. This is an extremely satisfactory rate considering that a large number of Nicaraguan citizens have moved about; some have changed residency and they can only vote at the ballot-receiving boards themselves.

Taking this into account, and considering that many people lost their civic identification booklet and failed to replace it, as well as other similar problems, we are otherwise extremely satisfied with an 82 percent voter turnout. We will reveal the details in a few moments.

[Reporter] Dr Oyanguren, will there be a mechanism to announce other details at other time?

[Oyanguren] Maybe this time around we will not make the same mistake as we did last night and commit ourselves to a specific time. We have learned from that experience. We will let the network headed by La Voz de Nicaragua know as soon as we have a report to spare you from anxiously waiting for that report. I would like to reiterate my apologies to all on behalf of the CSE and particularly from its vote counting department. Thank you very much.

RAMIREZ PREDICTS 80-PERCENT VOTER TURNOUT

PA042313 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 2 Nov 84 p 12

[Text] Managua (ANN) -- FSLN vice presidential candidate Sergio Ramirez Mercado yesterday estimated that 80 percent of the citizens who are registered voters will go to the polls on Sunday to cast their votes and announced that all of the participants in the national dialogue that began on Wednesday in this capital will be able to participate in the drafting of the new Nicaraguan constitution.

At a breakfast meeting with foreign correspondents, Ramirez Mercado, who is also a writer and a member of the ruling junta, dismissed reports from Washington claiming that the Nicaraguan Government is pressuring the people to force them to participate in the 4 November elections.

Ramirez Mercado said: "The United States always interprets things according to its own interests, and this is the case here. If the FSLN wins the elections the U.S. Government will surely say that the elections were fraudulent; if the FSLN obtains fewer votes it will say that this shows that it has lost popular support."

Ramirez Mercado defined Sunday's elections, the first to be held since the Anastasio Somoza dictatorship was overthrown in July 1979, as the "entrance door" to an electoral system that would dictate the holding of elections every 6 years with the ample participation of political parties of various ideologies. He also predicted that the use of television, introduced during this electoral campaign, by all of the political parties will undoubtedly continue in the future.

The vice presidential candidate said that for his party the elections represent a "national dialogue," but he did not challenge the validity of the dialogue that is currently under way in the Foreign Ministry which was proposed by political organizations not linked to the FSLN. Representatives of 33 political, labor, religious, economic, and social organizations are participating in the dialogue, including those linked to the rightist Democratic Coordinating Board that is promoting electoral abstention.

In spite of this, he said, all of these organizations will be able to participate in the drafting of the new constitution. This task will begin when the Constituent Assembly is formally inaugurated on 10 January.

Ramirez was asked by a reporter whether the fact that the national dialogue is being held, that the forces that are not participating in the elections will be allowed to participate in the drafting of the constitution, and that the government is seeking a rapprochement with Miskito leader Brooklyn Rivera do not diminish the importance of the elections in the eyes of the rest of the world. He replied: On the contrary, "this is proof of the pluralist leanings of the current administration."

"The elections cannot solve the country's main problem, which is peace," Ramirez Mercado added, stressing that such a solution depends on whether the United States will decide to halt its aggression against the revolution and to suspend its financial and military support to the mercenary groups that are attacking the country from Honduras and Costa Rica.

Ramirez Mercado refused to speculate regarding the number of votes that his party will obtain, but he predicted that 80 percent of the registered voters will certainly go to the polls on Sunday. He also denied that the FSLN bribed the other participating parties to eliminate criticism of the Patriotic Military Service from their electoral campaigns, as THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported. Ramirez Mercado explained that the money (approximately $100,000) given to these parties was the amount stipulated in the Electoral Law for the financing of the parties' electoral campaigns.

FSLN LEADS IN VOTES IN MAJORITY OF AREAS

PA051429 Paris AFP in Spanish 1316 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Managua, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The FSLN is leading in the Nicaraguan elections with 70 percent of the votes, according to initial ballot-receiving board counts, although there were some surprises in the war zones.

In the regions of Quilali, Nueva Segovia, and Muy Muy, Matagalpa Department, where there is a strong military deployment, the FSLN was beaten by the Conservative Democratic Party of Nicaragua (PCDN), which received few votes in urban centers.

In Muy Muy, 160 km north of Managua, the PCDN obtained 56 percent of 125 valid votes, compared to 44 percent of the FSLN.

However, in the township of Juigalpa, capital of Chontales Department in southeastern Nicaragua, the FSLN widely surpassed its rival parties.

It is noted that the Catholic hierarchy has vast influence in Juigalpa, because that is where Msgr Pablo Vega, the president of the Episcopal Cconference who recently questioned the legitimacy of the electoral process, is based.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) insisted today that voter turnout surpassed 80 percent of the electors registered and explained that the first report on electoral results, originally scheduled for 0600 local, time will be delayed in view of the volume of information that is being processed.

PPSC EXPECTS TO RECEIVE 20 PERCENT OF VOTES

PA042327 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2301 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] The Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC, will receive 20 percent of the presidential votes and 10 of its candidates will be appointed to the National Assembly, according to PPSC vice presidential candidate Quillermo Mejia. In a statement to SALPRESS, Mejia said that fraudulent elections have been held in the past. However, during our tour of voting boards today, we have not discovered any irregularities, the PPSC leader asserted. Mejia said the general development of the electoral campaign was a democratic process; he said it is a democratic process that must be improved with other elections, the municipal elections, within the next 2 years.

VOTING CONTINUES IN LA TRONCA DESPITE CLASH

PA042109 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2042 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Matagalpa -- It has been reported that counterrevolutionary forces ambushed a Sandinist police patrol at 0930 today in La Tronca, 12 km east of (La Dalia). The patrol was supervising the electoral board's activities. The clash lasted until noon; there is still no information on the results. This proves that the contras did not really decree a cease-fire to allow the Nicaraguan people to participate in this civic exercise.

We also wish to report that the companeros in ballot-receiving boards in La Tronca, boards 823 and 824, continued to work despite the situation of aggression that arose. The citizens continue to vote. Nevertheless, due to the situation, the companero who is military commander in that zone decided to transfer the ballot-receiving board to another location so they can continue their work. This is our people's firm decision to defend the revolution by voting and fighting.

PASTORA ISSUES POLITICAL MANIFESTO ON ELECTIONS

PA040033 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] I have always said that free elections are the best way to achieve peace, progress, and social justice, stated Commander Eden Pastora.

Commander Pastora has issued a political manifesto expressing his tireless position toward facing the problems of the Nicaraguan people. The manifesto urges Nicaraguan commanders to act in favor of peace to avoid a war that, in the next few days, could be inevitable.

The nine commanders have mounted an electoral farce that is based on the persecution, torture, and death of our people, Pastora states in his political manifesto. This is basically a Somozist tactic that coincides with communist procedures and the nine commanders have not spared any of the resources of the party-army dominated state, the manifesto points out.

Terror and hunger have pushed minority sectors that feel either ashamed or threatened by their past into attacking honest citizens who have good reasons for opposing the electoral farce.

On several occasions we have called for unrestricted freedom of the press. In many documents we have demanded that there be freedom of the press to have a national understanding and an electoral process. We also have requested freedom of speech.

Political and religious freedoms have been restricted by decrees or by the unmerciful work of paramilitary organizations. Honest politicians and peasants in northern and southern Nicaragua are now saying what they said in the days of the Moncada election: No to the electoral farce that has been mounted!

Commander Pastora added that in spite of scarce resources and a lack of help from democratic institutions and governments, there are 8,000 armed men ready to conquer our right to self-determination. He said: We are reactivating and increasing our insurrectional peasant struggle and there are already 8,000 armed men ready to win our right to self-determination. The manifesto adds: I hold those politicians, minority groups, and people that have not had the courage to say no to the electoral farce and who talk with the killers of the people responsible for this situation.

CRUZ ASKS FOR NEW ELECTIONS; SCORNS NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA041424 Rome IPS in Spanish 1311 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Managua, 4 Nov (IPS) -- Opposition leader Arturo Cruz, former member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has demanded that new election be held in Nicaragua.

After arriving in Managua from the United States last night, Cruz termed the elections being held today to elect the president, a vice president, and a 90-member Constituent Assembly "illegitimate."

Cruz, who was greeted by leaders of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN), said that he was returning to Nicaragua to "express his solidarity with the companeros who are opposed to the farce."

Asked about his possible participation in the so-called "national dialogue" in which 33 political, labor, social, and church organizations are participating, he responded that the CDN agreed to exclude its former presidential and vice presidential candidates from such talks. In any event, he said, the dialogue should have the exclusive participation of the political parties to define, first of all, "the holding of truly free elections."

Cruz and Adan Fletes were nominated by the CDN as candidates months before it was agreed last September not to participate definitely in the election.

According to the former government junta leader, peace in Nicaragua can only be achieved with a "democracy." He held that today's elections will only aggravate the existing problems.

Asked about the decision of the national assembly of the opposition Independent Liberal Party to withdraw from the elections, Cruz said that such a step "proved that the CDN's demands were not exaggerated."

INTELLIGENCE CHIEF ON PLAN TO DISRUPT ELECTIONS

PA030400 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0205 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Managua, 2 Nov (DPA) -- Commander Julio Ramos, chief of military intelligence of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), has termed the decision of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] to decree a cease-fire during the elections a sign of "military impotence."

Ramos said today that the counterrevolutionary forces had plans to "obstruct the electoral process" through diverse military actions, including a plan to occupy the northern city of Esteli, 150 km from Managua.

The officer, who spoke before about a hundred observers to the Nicaraguan elections, said the forces opposed to the Sandinist government "have been expelled without achieving their objective" of occupying Esteli. He also said that there was a plan against the voting process which included military actions of different types from 30 October to 4 November, but this plan had been thwarted. Ramos said that the military actions supported by the United States do not signify a formula to overthrow the Nicaraguan revolutionary government that has been in power since 1979. However, Ramos said that the counterrevolutionary leaders are anticipating a direct intervention by the United States against Nicaragua.

FDN COMPLIES WITH CEASE-FIRE, REPORTS CLASHES

PA051723 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1302 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) has stated, through the clandestine Radio 15 September that it strictly complied with a cease-fire yesterday on the occasion of the Nicaraguan elections.

However, Commander Daniel Ortega, candidate for the presidency of the Republic, accused the counterrevolutionaries of provoking armed incidents in Jinotega, Nueva Segovia, and Matagalpa.

The radio station maintained that the commands of the various "task forces remained at their positions with their rifles silent because the Sandinist forces did not make any move to dislodge them." It also described the Nicaraguan electoral process as a senseless masquerade because the FSLN went to the polls practically alone." The station said that no one should be surprised that the FSLN wins an electoral process in which there was no opponent to defeat.

It was explained that beginning today "the war against Sandinist communism will increase and in the next few months, an offensive will begin with no cease-fires such as that implemented yesterday, which was decreed so that innocent people would not be killed along with combatants."

The station also reported on several clashes that occurred in late October and early November, which resulted in 95 dead and wounded in the Sandinist ranks. The FDN war report read by the station did not disclose any FDN casualties but warned the task forces about a possible Sandinist counteroffensive in the early morning hours. The station noted that on 28 October, Sandinist soldiers Silvio Pinedo Gutierrez, Aquiles Barrera Castro, and Juan Barrera Davila decided to join the Diriangen regional rebel command which operates in Jinotega, Matagalpa, and part of Chontales Departments. On 30 October, the radio added, there was fighting in a place known as El Sacramento, in southern Jinotega Department. Forty Sandinist were killed and weapons and ammunition was seized in this clash.

On 2 November, the FDN staged an ambush against two companies of a battalion for unconventional warfare (BLI) in La Vaka in Zelaya's north central region. The rebels killed 15 Sandinists. Martin Cantarero Gamero and Jose de Jesus Davila Garcia, commanders of the Sandinist group, were killed in this fighting. In addition, the FDN recovered 15 AK-47 Soviet-made rifles, boots, backpacks, canteens, uniforms, ammunition, and other war supplies. The rebel station also said that the Xolotlan and Rigoberto Cabezas task forces killed 27 persons of a BLI in Monte de Oro, near Siuna, in Zelaya Department on 3 November.

TELCOR MINISTER KILLED IN AMBUSH IN BOACO

PA060403 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0323 GMT 6 Nov 84

[Text] Managua, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- One day after the general elections were held in Nicaragua, Subcommander Enrique Schmidt Cuadra, minister director of the Telecommunications and Postal Service Institute (Telcor), was killed in combat, reliable sources have told ACAN-EFE. The sources added that the Sandinist official and 25 policemen were killed in an ambush in the central department of Boaco.

Interior Ministry Communique

PA060408 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0342 GMT 6 Nov 84

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry in Managua on 5 November]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Interior Ministry fulfills its duty of reporting the following to our people:

1. Some days ago, the state security detected that the task force led by the counterrevolutionary known as Ciclon, that was responsible for the death of the children of Las Pilas, was moving through El Corozo in Camoapa municipality.
2. In view of the need to annihilate the criminals of this task force, the Pablo Ubeda troops of the Interior Ministry were given the mission of annihilating that enemy force.
3. The only companero to heroically die in this action was Subcommander Enrique Schmidt.
4. The task force led by Ciclon and made up of 76 men was totally annihilated. It suffered 73 dead and 3 wounded. This is the first task force to be completely eliminated in a single action.
5. Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, interior minister, has posthumously awarded the Pedro Arauz Medal of Valor to Subcommander Enrique Schmidt. The funeral will be held today at 2300 at the Silvio Mayorga building.

Managua, 5 November 1984
[Signed] Public Relations Department of the Interior Ministry

National Mourning Declared

PA060416 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0344 GMT 6 Nov 84

[Communique No 39 issued by the General Directorate of Information and Press of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 5 November -- read by Manuel Espinoza]

[Text] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction reports to the people of Nicaragua that Subcommander Enrique Schmidt, minister of the Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute [Telcor], died heroically in combat against the counterrevolutionary forces today, 5 November 1984 at 1330 in El Corozo, Camuapa municipality. At the time of his death Subcommander Schmidt was temporarily attached to the Pablo Ubeda troops of the Intelligence Ministry. The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction hereby expresses its condolences to the family of Subcommander Schmidt, and to the workers of Telcor, and decrees 1 day of national mourning.

Managua, 5 November 1984
General Directorate of Information and Press of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction
At 59 years, Sandino lives!

PANAMANIAN SHIP ABLAZE AT PORT OF CORINTO

PA031725 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Port Administration Manager Francisco Martinez has announced that the ship Catarina, with Panamanian registration, caught fire this morning as a result of a leak in one of its fuel tanks. The ship is anchored at the entrance to the port of Corinto.

The port's military and civilian organizations are cooperating to put out the fire and set the ship loose. The ship, which had difficulty leaving the port at dawn today because of leaks in its fuel tanks, was seen on fire a few hours later by port workers, who sounded the alarm and alerted the authorities.

Martinez said that fire boats as well as Sandinist Navy boats went to aid the ship and rescued the crew. No one was injured. Martinez said that the 13,000-ton Catarina arrived at the port on 13 October and had unloaded more than 94,000 tons of oil from Venezuela.

The fire and the anchor problem are a source of much concern for the authorities because of the possibility that the ship could sink, thus obstructing the passage ships must use to go to the port's docks.

ARDE'S ROBELO BLAMES FSLN FOR BOMB ATTACK

PA051434 Rome IPS in Spanish 1320 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 5 Nov (IPS) -- Nicaraguan opposition leader Alfonso Robelo today blamed the Sandinists for an attempt on his life last night in a western neighborhood of Costa Rica's capital, San Jose.

Robelo, considered the top civil leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), which is one of the armed groups fighting against the Managua regime, was slightly wounded by shrapnel when an unidentified man threw an explosive device into his vehicle. Robelo attributed the attack to the FSLN because its members are his only enemies.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS AIRSPACE VIOLATION BY U.S.

PA030254 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0110 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Managua, 2 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicargua sent a protest note to the United States for the violation of its airspace by a U.S. spy plane, an act which along with other military actions foretells "a direct U.S. military intervention against Nicaragua and El Salvador." The aircraft, an SR-71, of the U.S. Air Force, last Wednesday flew over a large portion of Nicaraguan airspace, entering through the Atlantic coast and exiting through the Honduran border, claimed the Nicaraguan foreign minister.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto in his note of protest to Washington considers this incident an "unspeakable violation."

"These actions," the note adds, "plus the self-inflicted attacks on Honduran and Costa Rican towns, and the increased actions taken by the U.S. Government, seem to confirm reports claiming that should the U.S. President be reelected, there will be a direct U.S. military intervention in the next few weeks in Nicaragua and El Salvador."

The Nicaraguan Government asks the U.S. Government to "cease its policy of aggression in Nicaragua and to adopt an attitude of respect of the commitments born of international law and the UN Charter."

NOTE PROTESTS PROVOCATION FROM COSTA RICAN SOIL

PA030222 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0147 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Note issued by the Nicaraguan Government to the Costa Rican Government on 1 November]

[Text] Managua, 1 November 1984. Your Excellency Carlos Jose Gutierrez, Minister of Foreign Relations and Culture, San Jose, Costa Rica.

Mr. Minister: Hereby I refer to the following: Today, 1 November, between 1415 and 1445, a group of mercenaries at the service of the U.S. Government harassed with heavy mortar fire from Costa Rican territory the observation post located at the San Pancho border point, 11 km southwest of San Carlos, near milestone No 12.

In filing our formal protest in relation to this last act of aggression, which violates our national sovereignty and the Costa Rican neutrality proclamation, the Nicaraguan Government again exhorts the Costa Rican Government to reinforce control and vigilance measures over its territory, in order to prevent new incidents, such as those contained in this note, which without any doubt are intended to create artificial friction between both states, and justify military actions, designed to obstruct the electoral process under way in Nicaragua.

I take this opportunity to offer to Your Excellency, my renewed expression of highest consideration.

[Signed] Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Foreign Minister

ARDE DENIES RESPONSIBILITY FOR BORDER INCIDENTS

PA290332 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Press and Information Department on 27 October; place not given -- read by unidentified person]

[Text] In view of the recent border incidents between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, ARDE addresses the Costa Rican people and authorities to state the following:

1. ARDE's armed forces, led by Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, are waging their struggle deep inside Nicaraguan territory and their objectives are strictly military. This has won us the support of the residents in various areas where our forces are fighting.

2. Our war is against the Nicaraguan communist regime and to rescue the betrayed revolution. It is not a border war but an internal war in which (?8,000) peasants, students, and Indians, fight against the EPS [Sandinist People's Army], the pro-Soviet army, more than 150 km from the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border. Therefore, any bloody or terrorist incident occurring on the border between the two countries must not be blamed on our forces.

3. We reaffirm our sincere feelings for the Costa Rican people and their democratic system. We shall never inflict any harm on Costa Rica. Our struggle is to establish a political system in Nicaragua that will represent peace, tranquillity, and democracy for our suffering people.

HAVANA COMMEMORATES USSR'S OCTOBER REVOLUTION

FL060043 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 2300 GMT On 5 November begins live coverage of the Cuban national commemoration of the 67th anniversary of the USSR's October Revolution, at which Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura is scheduled to speak.

Color television coverage opens with a view of the interior of the FAR Universal Auditorium. The camera pans the audience. At 2305 GMT the stage curtains part and the ceremony begins with martial music. The camera pans to a poster of Lenin as the music continues, then pans the stage. The announces says that Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, and, USSR Ambassador Konstantin Katuchev are presiding over the ceremony.

At 2309 GMT, Ambassador Katuchev is introduced and begins his speech in Russian, with simultaneous translation into Spanish. Katuchev reviews the background of the October Revolution, citing it as an example for all peoples now struggling for freedom. As he speaks, the camera focuses on him then pans the persons assembled on the stage.

Katuchev cites the progress the USSR has made since the October Revolution 67 years ago, from rural electrification and hydroelectric plants to the exploration of space, from the growth of Soviet agriculture to improved communications such as railroads, described as having provided an immense economic stimulus to the nation.

As Katuchev reviews Soviet economic progress since the October Revolution, the camera repeatedly pans the stage and the large sign that reads "67th Anniversary of the Great Socialist Revolution of October." Katuchev briefly mentions Soviet aid to Cuba as stemming from Leninist internationalist concepts.

He reviews the USSR's democratic government, saying that real socialism has shown its superiority over capitalism by incorporating workers into government organs, whereas the United States Government does not have a single laborer in its Congress.

He continues his speech by referring to the creative forces of socialism, exemplified by the Cuban example, and by Fidel Castro. He says that his people support Cuban defensive measures and preparations. He laments the existence of forces that oppose democratic programs, especially U.S. imperialism, and refers to the "California mafia" as perpetuating misery in Africa and South America while supporting reactionary governments in Israel and South Africa, and the Stroessner regime.

Katuchev continues his speech with the guarantee of Soviet support for peaceful nations, arms control, the elimination of nuclear arms, and peaceful coexistence. He makes a call for peaceful cooperative relations with capitalist nations, referring to the U.S. naval presence in Central American waters and at the Guantanamo Naval Base.

He refers to the significance of the CEMA meeting in Havana, repeating Chernenko's statement that the USSR is and will always be beside Cuba. He concludes his speech at 2334 GMT, to prolonged applause.

Jose Ramon Machado Ventura begins his address at 2335 GMT. He reviews the significance of the October Revolution and Lenin's role first in preparing for and directing the revolution, then in achieving the complete emancipation of the masses. He refers to the immense sacrifices made by the Soviet peoples and their resistance to successive aggressions, including the fascist attack during World War II.

He praises the USSR as great and generous and for its solidarity with the world's nations. He expresses Cuba's gratitude to the USSR and expresses his certainty that the USSR will continue to enjoy unprecedented success in all fields. He also traces industrial progress in the USSR since the October Revolution, including the exploration of space for peaceful purposes.

He praises the improvement in the standard of living in the USSR, its participation in the defeat of fascism during World War II, and its present struggle to consolidate world peace in the face of an arms race unleashed by those who would militarize even space. He refers to Yankee imperialism and its opposition to peaceful solutions for regional problems, saying that millions of persons worldwide cry out for peace. Cuba embraces the USSR's search for negotiated settlements and peace agreements and rejects the United States' militaristic attitude, he says.

He continues his speech by stating that the relations that Cuba has with the USSR are a source of pride for Cuba, and that yesterday, with the celebration of Red Sunday, the Cuban people commemorated the October Revolution with productive labors.

He reviews Soviet economic aid to Cuba from the difficult days of the Cuban revolution to the present day, with special mention of the great industrial plants that the USSR is helping to build. He refers to the October Revolution as an example for the Cuban people and reaffirms the Cuban will to resist foreign aggression and Cuba's refusal to take one step backward from socialism.

Machado Venture ends his speech to great applause at 2356 GMT. Martial music is played as the camera pans first the stage and then the poster of Lenin and the large sign over the stage.

CASTRO, USSR'S RYZHKOV VISIT MOA NICKEL PLANT

FL021326 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, party first secretary and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has made an extensive tour of Moa, accompanied by Nikolay Ryzgkov, CPSU Central Committee secretary, and other Soviet and Cuban leaders. Fidel arrived in Moa shortly after 1100. After being greeted by province leaders, he headed for the Punta Gorda Nickel Plant, where he viewed the progress of the project, which is 83 percent completed.

Before touring the plant, Fidel inaugurated a sculpture entitled American Guerrilla Fighter, dedicated to Commander Ernesto Che Guevara, in Altos Plaza. During the cememony Fidel placed flowers at the base of the monument. He called Che the most extraordinary of his comrades during the revolution.

Moments later, Fidel spoke with Cuban and Soviet reporters saying: The workers have made an impressive effort here in Moa. Not only the workers, but also the students participated. I wish to express to them our affection, recognition, and admiration. We will never forget the skill they have exhibited.

Fidel also noted the extensive cooperation between the USSR and Cuba, explaining that the main industrial projects in the country, such as the Punta Gorda Plant, the nuclear power plant, the Cienfuegos refinery, and others, are the results of the ties that unite us.

FIDEL, USSR'S BAYBAKOU SIGN SOCIOECONOMIC PROTOCOL

FL030204 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party's Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, bid farewell this afternoon to the Soviet delegation headed by Nikolay Baybakov, vice president of the Council of Ministers and Gosplan president, at the Jose Marti International Airport.

Moments before his departure, Baybakov had signed with Humberto Perez, alternate Politburo member and vice president of the Council of Ministers, the ceremonial document of the second Cuba-Soviet Union meeting on coordinating plans for economic and social development, for the 5-year period 1986-90. The commander in chief and other Politburo members attended the protocol ceremony.

Baybakov, who headed the Soviet delegation at the bilateral talks on the 5-year economic and social development plan, also had been included in the Soviet representation at the recently ended 39th CEMA meeting, which was held in Havana's Palace of Conventions.

After signing the important document, Fidel wished success for the joint endeavors in the socioeconomic fields between Cuba and the USSR.

FURTHER COVERAGE ON HAVANA CEMA SESSION

SFRY's Srebric Addresses Meeting

AU031955 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Nov 84 p 7

[Text] Havana, 31 Oct (TANJUG) -- At a regular annual CEMA meeting, held at the level of premiers and for the first time in the Cuban capital, Borisav Srebric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council and head of the Yugoslav delegation, spoke. Our country, which is not a member of this economic organization, participates in the work of its organs on the basis of a special agreement reached in 1964.

After recalling the fact that the international situation in the world is deteriorating, the head of the Yugoslav delegation said that the current situation in international relations completely confirms the importance and the far-reaching vision of the architects of the nonaligned policy that peace, security, and international cooperation can be built only with full respect for the principles of sovereignty, independence, and equality of countries. As a socialist and nonaligned country, [Yugoslavia] is making active efforts to realize these goals and principles.

"We must bear in mind that the deterioration of economic problems in the world is directly connected with the worsening international situation," he said. "A worsening of the economic position of the developing countries, particularly of the least developed countries which are fighting for a bare existence of their population is evident. Foreign debts have become a heavy burden for many countries and a source of instability with wider social and political consequences. The difficult economic situation seriously jeopardizes the independence and free development of many developing countries.

"The critical situation in the world economy, the difficult economic position of the developing countries and the instability of the monetary system cannot be successfully solved without a radical change of the present unjust international economic relations. A further widening of the economic gap in the world has become economically, and thus also politically, untenable. It is necessary to work out and to put into service a new international economic system, the basis of which was adopted by the nonaligned countries."

Speaking about cooperation between Yugoslavia and CEMA, the vice president of the Federal Executive Council recalled that this year two decades had elapsed since the agreement was reached between the Government of the SFRY and CEMA on the SFRY's participation in the work of the CEMA organs. Successful cooperation between the SFRY and CEMA confirms the lasting importance of the principles of complete equality, respect for sovereignty, national interests, and mutual benefit adopted by the SFRY-CEMA agreement.

Hungarian Delegation Departs

LD021124 Budapest MTI in English 1038 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Havana, November 2 (MTI) -- The Hungarian delegation that under the leadership of Istvan Sarlos, member of the HSWP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] Political Committee and deputy premier, attended the 39th session of the CEMA here, left Havana on Thursday.

The Hungarian delegation was seen off at the Havana airport by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Cuban Communist Party CC Political Committee, deputy president of the State Council and deputy premier, and by Vyacheslav Sichov, secretary of the CEMA.

FIDEL, RAUL CASTRO SIGN GANDHI CONDOLENCE BOOK

FL021128 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, party first secretary and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Army General Raul Castro have signed the condolence book at the Indian Embassy for the death of Indira Gandhi. Signing the book, Fidel expressed the Cuban people's grief over the irreparable loss. Politburo members Guillermo Garcia, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, and Armando Hart also signed the book on Thursday.

ALMEIDA BOSQUE CONVEYS CONDOLENCES ON GANDHI'S DEATH

Meets New Prime Minister

PA051502 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Juan Almeida, vice president of the Cuban Council of State, met in New Delhi with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, to whom he conveyed the condolences and expressed the deep sorrow of the Cuban people and their president, Fidel Castro, over the assassination of Indira Gandhi.

Rajiv Gandhi in turn expressed the Indian Government's wish to continue strengthening relations between the two countries. The meeting, which took place at the conclusion of an intensive program of activities carried out by the Cuban delegation that attended the funeral of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, took place in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere, in line with the relations that exist between the two nations.

Juan Almeida and the other members of the delegation had met earlier with Indian President Zail Singh and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Rajiv Gandhi Seeks Stronger Ties

FL051420 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of Cuba's Council of State, has met with India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The meeting took place at the end of an intense period of activity by the Cuban delegation attending Indira Gandhi's funeral. The meeting, which took place at the prime minister's official residence, was held in a cordial and fraternal climate, in accordance with the high level of relations between the two countries. Rajiv Gandhi expressed his government's wishes of continuing to strengthen relations between India and Cuba.

NICARAGUAN, SOCIALIST LEADERS COMMENT ON ELECTIONS

CSE's Fiallos Defends Elections

PA050100 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Interview with Dr Mariano Fiallos, president of the Nicaraguan Supreme Electoral Council [CSE], by Pedro Manuel Otero in Managua; date not given -- recorded]

[Fxcerpt] [Otero] Dr Fiallos, many enemies of the Sandinist revolution assert that Sunday's elections are undemocratic. I would like to hear your view on this.

[Fiallos] An international campaign has been launched under the direction of the Reagan administration, which certain Nicaraguan sources have echoed, to discredit the Nicaraguan electoral process for aims they truly cannot bring themselves to confess, but with which we are familiar.

Nevertheless, the people's support for the Nicaraguan elections was demonstrated when 93 percent of those who could vote registered during the registration period. This is truly a very high percentage in a country such as ours.

Second, there has been a normal, open, and free electoral campaign. The political parties have expressed themselves freely, criticizing the other parties and even the national government. As members of the CSE, we are ready to guarantee the secrecy and freedom of the vote, as well as the honesty of the vote-counting process and the final report.

[Otero] Is the CSE ready to perform its electoral duties in a satisfactory manner?

[Fiallos] All of the material and the human elements are ready. Only some unforeseeable development, which is always a possibility -- including an attack against our country by much larger forces -- could interfere with the electoral process. We are ready for it. I would like to point out that the situation we currently confront, which you mentioned earlier, is partly due to the [words indistinct]. Our view, the view upheld by the revolutionary government, is that the elections are justified by the massive popular support they received during the registration period and which they will again receive, we are sure, on election day (?due) to the existence of this open and [word indistinct] campaign, to the CSE's definitive determination to precisely report the electoral results, and to the revolutionary government's determination to accept the consequences of those (?results).

[Otero] As president of the CSE you recently received several of the special guests invited to the elections. Can you comment on some of their opinions regarding the elections?

[Fiallos] We have guests from several parts of the world. We have guests from the Socialist International, from the World Interparliamentary Union, from several countries, from [words indistinct], from the Christian Democratic International, from [words indistinct]. Most of them asked questions. Several of guests were misinformed by the international campaign, by parties sympathetic to them, or by (?groups affiliated with them). So we have [words indistinct] various kinds of conversations. In general, after carefully examining the voting lists [words indistinct] that we have taken to prevent fraud and have an honest vote-counting process, most of the observers have either become convinced or are becoming convinced that our elections will be truly honest and democratic.

Ortega: 'Great, Historical' Day

PA050023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Report by Pedro Manuel Otero, Havana Radio correspondent in Managua -- recorded]

[Text] Today, Nicaraguans have been going to the ballot-receiving boards since early morning to fulfill their civic and patriotic duty to vote in the first authentically free and democratic elections in Nicaragua's history. This reporter witnessed long lines of citizens waiting for the boards to open. I can assert that by 0540 Nicaraguans were standing in line and waiting their turn. The ballot-receiving boards opened their doors at 0700 and, after reading the usual instructions, the presidents of the electoral boards started the voting process. More than 100 national and foreign journalists waited for FSLN presidential candidate Commander Daniel Ortega's arrival at the 185th ballot-receiving board in Managua where he and other Nicaraguan revolutionary leaders went to vote. Approximately 250 people were standing in line by 0730 waiting for their turn to vote at this electoral board. Other ballot-receiving boards in Managua are also working at full capacity. The Nicaraguan people have once again answered the revolution's call to vote en masse for peace.

Daniel Ortega's arrival at the electoral board was preceded by the arrival of journalists who wanted to be the first to hear the statements of the current coordinator of the Junta of the Government for National Reconstruction, after he voted. Commander Ortega arrived at 0700 and the president of the ballot-receiving board immediately read the instructions.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] We confirmed that the premises comply with the necessary conditions to guarantee the secrecy of the vote. We verified the electoral material, counted the ballots received from the Electoral Council and these are the results: 841 ballots for president and vice president; 807 ballots for Contituent Assembly representatives. After confirming that the electoral boxes were completely empty, they were closed and sealed. Thus, the voting process began at 0700.

Signed Ronald Ayarza, Maria Carmen Garcia, and Jose Galeas. [end recording]

Commander Daniel Ortega's first statement after voting follows:

[Begin recording] This is a great day, a historical day because for the first time in Nicaragua's history we have free elections. It is the first time in Nicaragua that seven parties participated. We are therefore reasserting the Nicaraguan revolution's pluralist character. [end recording]

We also interviewed Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto at the electoral board and he made this statement to Radio Havana's listeners:

[Begin recording] I believe that our companeros in Cuba and all of our companeros in Latin America, who are really friends of the people and are authentic democrats, are convinced that this is a historical event for Nicaragua. We are holding the first authentically democratic, free, and pluralist elections with mass participation. This unmasks the U.S. imperialist's tremendous lie that the Nicaraguan people have been let down by their leaders because they failed to fulfill some alleged promises, which only Mr Reagan knows about. I believe we are proving the tremendous political force, and the love and feelings that all the Nicaraguans have for the FSLN, particularly for Commander Daniel Ortega. [end recording]

Socialist International Leader

FL051732 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1517 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Socialist International Vice President Jose Francisco Pena Gomez has said that the Sandinist revolution will be preserved and the constitutional process broadened, but it will have to maneuver very intelligently with the U.S. Administration.

In statements to the news agency PRELA, Pena Gomez said that during the U.S. pre-election period, the present administration kept pressure on Nicaragua in spite of being closely watched by the opposition, and that if it is reelected, the situation will worsen because there will be less criticism.

Pena Gomez said that it was very difficult to know what Washington's attitude will be toward the Nicaraguan process, a position which will depend on U.S. election results.

In spite of everything, he said, the Sandinist revolution will be preserved and its constitutional process broadened.

BAHAMAS

PINDLING SAYS PARTY EMERGING FROM CRISIS

FL051549 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 27 Oct 84 p 1

[By Colin Higgins]

[Text] The Progressive Liberal Party is emerging from "one of its most critical and hard fought battles," Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling told hundreds last night who packed the Polaris Hall of the Holiday Inn for the ruling party's last night of convention. "But critical examination and healthy analysis should make us better, not bitter," Sir Lynden -- speaking against the backdrop of a giant Bahamian flag -- told those attending the convention. They waved PLP and Bahamian flags, they stood on chairs, others ran towards the entrance as the prime minister, to cheers and the music of "Chariots of Fire," approached the stage.

"The purveyors of doom and the pundits of defeat had written our epitaph. The international media had heralded our demise. The voices of decay had already announced our burial," said Sir Lynden. "But as always, yes, as always, the Progressive Liberal Party served as an open lesson to the world this week, that ours is a great and cherished democracy! We are indivisible!" the speaker said. "Joined by a bitter past! Nurtured by a shared progress! And sustained by a common hope." This week the PLP Party "closed the book on one of its most contentious periods," the speaker said. "We have emerged from the crisis in communication. There was confusion in the air yet we did not lose our way. We agreed to agree and we agreed to disagree on the issues."

Beginning his address, the prime minister stated: "For more than a year, I have been the subject and the object of scathing accusations, bitter testimony, and searching investigation. Those lonely weeks and months have taught me much. They taught me that leaders must be tough enough to fight!" The audience screamed in response. "And tender enough to cry." A choir-like "yes" went up from listeners. "Human enough to make mistakes and resilient enough to bounce back," the prime minister continued. "You may or may not realise it," he said, "but for leaders, the pain is intense. Yet they must smile through the tears and keep moving with the faith that there is a brighter side tomorrow." Listeners were told: "At this moment in time, our party is in crisis. But leadership can lead us out of that crisis and in doing so, leadership must heed the call of conscience, redemption, healing, and unity, for they constitute the formula for the resolution of the crisis. What the past year has shown, above all else, is that the key to our liberation is in our own hands, in our own dreams, and in our own visions of a better Bahamas," the packed Polaris Hall was told.

"Fellow delegates," said the dark suited Sir Lynden, "I asked each and everyone of you to consider all that you have seen and heard and to take a deliberate and conscious decision as to whether or not I was the one you wanted to lead our party and our nation. I told you that I felt it was my responsibility to correct whatever was done in error, to stamp our whatever was done deliberately and maliciously, and to chart a new course for higher ground." The speaker said he did not expect an answer until Thursday. "But to my pleasant surprise you sent me your reply on Tuesday."

"And it was clear, unmistakable and unequivocal," Sir Lynden said. "Your reply was to reaffirm that the true leader of the Progressive Liberal Party is indeed your leader, that the prime minister of the Bahamas is indeed your prime minister. And the man who walked hand in hand with you from the dark past to the bright present is indeed your man of the hour," listeners were told as they cheered and applauded.

The speaker said he took the vote as a vote of confidence, and conviction. "I also want you to know that I am honoured and proud to continue as the leader of this great party and this great nation."

Quoting the late John F. Kennedy, the speaker said: "With a full and grateful heart and with only one obligation, to devote every effort of body, mind, and spirit to lead our party back to unity and our nation back to domestic and international respectability." Said Sir Lynden to his audience: I know you love me. A roar went up from the Polaris Hall. One man called out "Yes! Yes!" A woman screamed and went into temporary convulsions. "I want you to know I love you, too."

As he neared the end of his address -- which was to be accompanied by the "Chariots of Fire" theme -- the speaker stated: "This convention crackles with unbroken electricity! And delegates sizzle with fresh energy. Our party is invested with a new charge. Knowing that I lifted not a single finger against any one of my brothers, and knowing that I uttered not a single name, I feel virgin energy in this hall tonight. I feel that we are filled with a new potency and bathed in a new glow. I feel fed by a fresh fire and juiced with new electricity!" As listeners applauded, Sir Lynden continued: "I feel new lightning flying from our fingers! Don't you feel it, fellow delegates?" A loud "yes" was the reply. "Don't you feel these vibes?" "Yes!"

"Don't you feel the electricity?" "Yes!"

"Don't you feel the power, the mighty magnetism of PLP power?" Again, a roar went up from the packed Polaris Hall of the Holiday Inn.

JAMAICA

MARXIST PARTY LEADER OFF TO HAVANA FOR TALKS

FL051720 Bridgetown CANA in English 2201 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 3, CANA -- Leaders of the small Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ), Dr Trevor Munroe, has gone to Havana for talks with the Cuban Communist Party on improving relations, known to have been strained over their differing positions on last year October's strife in Grenada, including the murder of leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and the subsequent U.S.-led invasion of the island. The WPJ is regarded by the Caribbean left as the mentor of the radical faction in the New Jewel Movement (NJM) that attempted to oust Bishop, leading to the political crisis there and the subsequent invasion. Cuban President Fidel Castro, a strong personal friend of Bishop, denounced that faction of the party that moved against the prime minister.

The U.S. invasion deprived Havana of its best friend in the Caribbean, cost the lives of 24 Cubans who fought the Americans, as well as the loss of millions of dollars in cash and kind it had pumped into Grenada's new international airport recently opened to an American fanfare.

The WPJ has been ambivalent over the action against Bishop, and criticised Cuba for its harsh statements after Bishop's murder, which it said helped to weaken the Grenada regime at the time of the U.S. intervention. Cuba was also criticised for ignoring a request from St George's to send troops to the island prior to the invasion.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CONTADORA MEETING REPORTEDLY HELD IN PANAMA

PA041350 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 4 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] The four deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group reportedly met in Panama on Friday, in what was described as a "hermetically-sealed" session.

Although there were no comments on the outcome of the session from the Panama Foreign Ministry, a diplomatic source said that the deputy foreign ministers from Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela spent the time "revising, adjusting, and systematizing" the Contadora peace pact for Central America. The document is aimed at bringing peace to the volatile region because of constant confrontations between Nicaragua and Honduras, in addition to charges by El Salvador that Nicaragua is supporting rebel action in its country.

Also discussed was a package of information on Central America for presentation by the Contadora Group to the Organization of American States (OAS) at a meeting to be held in Brazil Nov 15, the diplomatic source said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

JORGE ANNOUNCES RESTRUCTURING OF FOREIGN DEBT

FL022231 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1829 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 2 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Dominican President Jorge Blanco announced here today that the government will restructure a $176-million due debt with the banks represented by the Paris Club, in addition to a $100-million debt that is about to become due.

In a televised message to the entire country, the head of state said that if things turn out the way the government is hoping they will, the Dominican Republic would be in a position to fulfill its commitment, but only by being granted extensions such as those offered to countries like Mexico.

The restructuring will include a moratorium on the payment of interests as well as undefined terms for the liquidation of capital. Some $80 million of capital that will become due will be restructured with commercial banks; in addition, new terms will have to be negotiated for [the $80 million in capital] -- and $220 million in accumulated interests.

Jorge Blanco said that during the negotiations with the IMF due to continue on Monday, an attempt will be made to obtain emergency financing to strengthen the balance of payments, while the country increases its exports in compliance with the terms they would have to agree on.

He pointed out a 46-percent increase in foreign exchange for exports of nontraditional products. The fiscal deficit last September amounted to 7 million pesos, 10 million less than in the same month last year, he said.